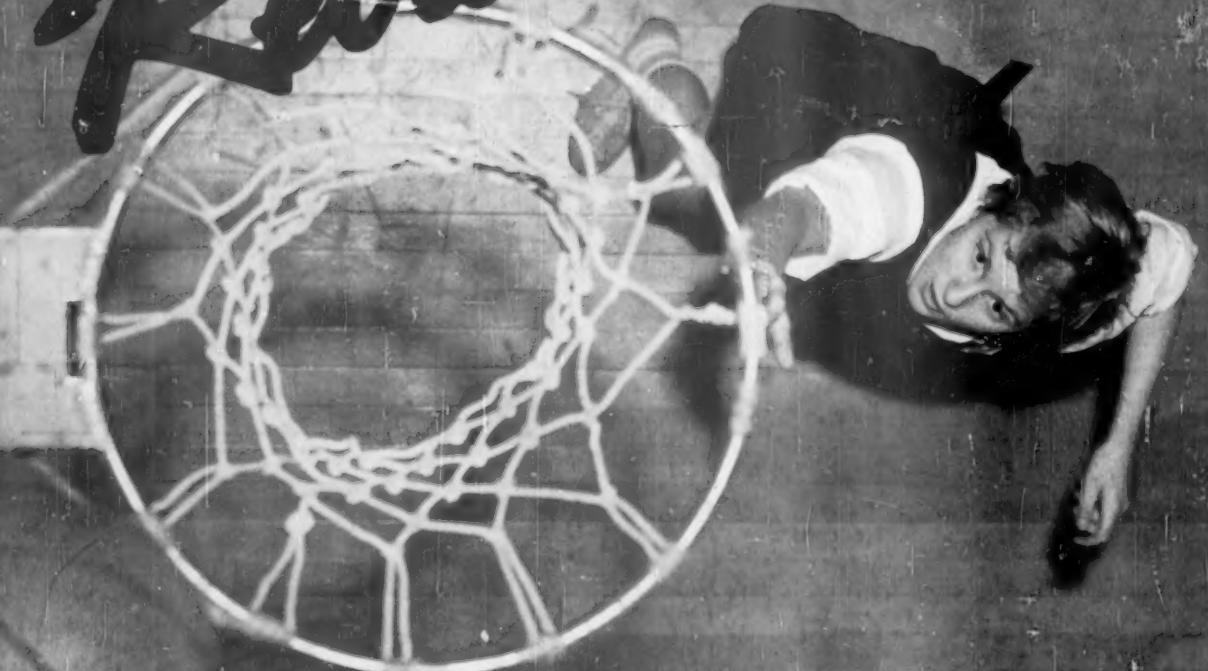
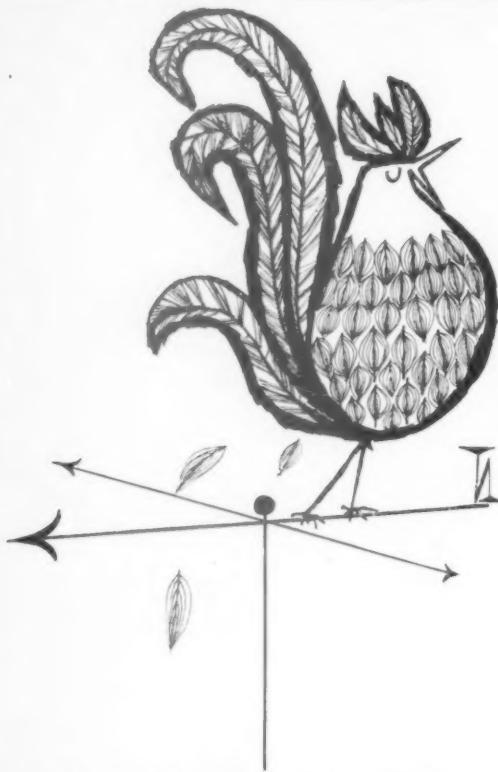


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JANUARY 1958



THE MAGAZINE OF THE RECREATION MOVEMENT

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VOL. LI.

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No. 1

On the Cover

THE FINAL SCORE. This striking basketball shot, taken by seventeen-year-old James H. Stein, Jr., of Auburn, Illinois, won a \$100 third award in Class I of the 1957 National High School Photographic Awards conducted by the Eastman Kodak Company.

Next Month

With February the month of parties, "Mid-winter Ice Breakers" and "St. Patrick's Day Shenanigans" should be helpful to party planners. A variety of additional articles deals with such subjects as the widely debated question of hot rods, operation details of a successful marina, how to prepare and give a slide narration, the use of a plastic ice-skating rink, the needs of teen-agers, special services programs, and others. (If you, yourself, hold any unique or special events in February, this year, won't you write us about them before you forget?)

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Page 17 (upper left), courtesy Boys' Club of America, (upper right), courtesy Park and Recreation Department, Huntington Park, California; 18-19, Anita Fowler, Palo Alto, California; 24, Department of Parks, New York City.

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Recreation *

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The Close Relationship

of Parks and Recreation . . . Charles E. Doell

NO PARK was ever built that did not contain an element of recreation in its concept.

No public recreation program was ever completely diversified unless it utilized public parks.

Parks and recreation go together as completely as love and marriage—"You can't have one without the other." In point of fact, in public affairs parks and recreation are considered as a combined public service, for the public is not well served by facilities alone or by program alone. It is the combination of both, in a single unified service, that constitutes the commodity which interests the public.

When two separate municipal departments, the park department and the recreation department, apparently function well together—because the component parts have been well coordinated and the personalities involved are compatible—it is often said that one provides the facilities, the other conducts the program. This is not quite the case because, depending on the situation, either the park department or the recreation department may be providing and conducting the various services. These may be golf courses, tennis courts at unsupervised locations, boat docks and boat livery service, picnic areas (both organized and unorganized), nature trails, summer musical entertainment, and others. Actually, in the successful operation of parks and recreation as separate departments, the whole field of park and recreation service must be under continual examination, and allocation of functions must be made to each of the departments on a more or less logical, but nonetheless arbitrary, basis. In no other way can the combined service be made complete or can duplication of effort be avoided.

Park departments and recreation departments, along with their respective ideological camps, are much like married couples—they can quarrel with each other but let the intervener or common enemy beware! Assuming basic compatibility between them, husband and wife can turn on an enemy with greater combined force and effort than a mere two times one. So must it be with park and recreation forces. With municipal redevelopment programs and freeway disruptions now in the offing, they must combine talents to avoid serious setbacks to municipal park-recreation services. Just a few of the present common dangers can be cited.

Redevelopment authorities are prone to plan all facilities for the area, proposed to be redeveloped, as though that area were a complete planning unit for all services. It could be a logical neighborhood for park and recreation service, or only a part of a single neighborhood. Who can properly

MR. DOELL, well-known in park and recreation circles, is superintendent of parks in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

provide the true picture of the appropriate total park-recreation service? The park man? The recreation man? Only the combination of the two, or the department in which both are combined, can logically reflect the nature and extent of the combined park and recreation service required in this instance, as a part of the over-all plan of service to the entire city. If the matter is important enough to carry the argument to Washington, only an agency in which the philosophy of both parks and recreation has been developed and refined by repeated experiences is strong enough and convincing enough to carry the day. No divided authority for parks and recreation will "cut the mustard" here.

If the strength of a united front for parks and recreation is needed in redevelopment projects, the need is even greater to combat the aggressive and often ruthless attack by highway planners. Only recently has the value of integrated neighborhoods as a unit of municipal life been appreciated. Much still has to be done to place tangible values on open spaces and recreation areas. Parks are more than attractive vacant areas. They are the tools of a recreation service, the extent of which is seldom known to material planners and the psychological effect of which, on a metropolitan society, appears to be too intangible for them to take seriously into consideration. Much educational work must be done and, again, hope lies only in the combination of a parks and recreation philosophy.

Towns and cities suburban to a central city in metropolitan areas have grown at an amazing rate in the last decade. The consequent demand for park and recreation leaders has frequently been filled by employing one individual who is trained, usually, in only one phase of park and recreation work or, even more often, as a recreation leader. With facilities meager and funds limited, the job of providing both park and recreation programs has suddenly been thrust upon young men and women almost fresh out of school. They have been called upon to plan services for a town belonging to a larger metropolitan area, where the government organization is daily becoming more complicated. Actually these young people are being placed in a very tough spot. Errors of judgment in philosophy are almost unavoidable.

These few examples illustrate the closeness of the association between two services that have frequently been considered as two separate functions of government. The fact that the maintenance of parks and the operation of recreation programs are specialties within the single framework of a single service is accepted by the general public. Professionals, too, must accept this doctrine if a public park-recreation service is to discharge adequately its responsibilities and fulfill the destined niche its worth prescribes. ■



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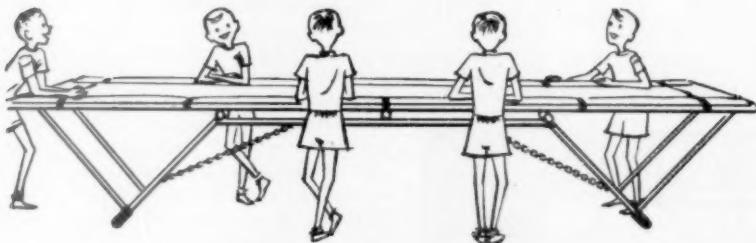
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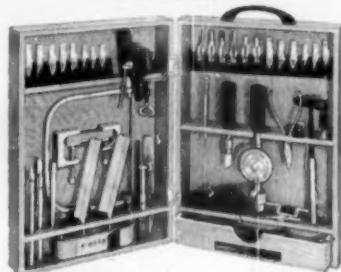
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—The Editors.

Public Relations

Sirs:

Richard Baker's article "Public Relations in Recreation" in the October RECREATION was most enlightening. This article might go a long way towards waking up many a recreation director who has fallen asleep at the wheel. I feel, along with Mr. Baker, that it takes a great deal of love and self-sacrifice to promote good recreation in your city or community. Too many are content to sit back and complain about all the inadequacies of our profession and do nothing to better them.

Hats off to Richard Baker and his very illuminating story!

THOMAS E. BRADDOCK, Assistant Superintendent, Recreation Division, San Antonio, Texas.

Sports

Sirs:

In your "Sport Quiz Program" in your November issue it was stated that

in swimming the legs provide more power than the arms. In swimming the front crawl stroke, according to *Swimming and Diving* by Armbuster and Morehouse, page 31, the arms provide seventy per cent of the total power of this stroke with thirty per cent being leg power.

FRANK J. CASNE, 125 Minooka Street, Pittsburgh 10, Pennsylvania.

Inspiring Address

Sirs:

We were pleased to read the editorial by Dr. Paul F. Douglass in the November issue of RECREATION. The editorial is only a small portion of the inspiring address he gave at our annual L. H. Weir Recreation Banquet.

When Dr. Douglass gave his address at our 2,300-acre Bradford Woods Outdoor Recreation Area we were fortunate in having as our guests Indiana University President Herman B. Wells, chairman of the National Council on Education and a UN delegate; Judge John Hastings, chairman of the University's board of trustees; other officials of the University, professors, alumni, and students. Everyone was thrilled by the dynamic address of Dr. Douglass. Recently President Wells quoted Dr. Douglass in an all-University program.

The L. H. Weir Banquet is conducted by the Indiana University Graduate Recreation Society with the assistance of the Undergraduate Recreation Society.

GARRETT G. EPPLY, Chairman of Department of Recreation, Indiana University, Bloomington.

• We agree about this address, and

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used as much of it as we could. Wish there had been space for more.—Ed.

Letter to Dr. McCarthy

Sir:

I want to congratulate you on your splendid editorial in the September issue of RECREATION. Your philosophy of human fitness included the mental, emotional, spiritual, as well as physical, which comes at an important time when some of our colleagues tend to see the individual only as muscle.

I am certain professionals in the recreation field heartily support your philosophy of total or human fitness and would hope that emphasis be given to this totality of the human personality rather than just the physical. I expressed this concept in the July issue of the YMCA *Journal of Physical Education* in an article entitled "Physical Fitness or Total Fitness."

Best wishes to you in your efforts.

HARRY D. EDGREN, Professor of Recreation Leadership, Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana.

November Issue Scores

Sirs:

The November 1957 issue of your magazine has forced me to speak out. I must confess that during this past year the content of the publication had failed to arouse any interest—and then the November magazine hit with full impact.

The articles, "Know Your Adolescents" and "Recreation in the Age of

Enjoyment," highlighted a wealth of fine information, progressive thought, and stimulating philosophy. My files are loaded with reference material and I seldom retain any RECREATION magazines, but November forced me to mount many pages on our bulletin boards at school.

The recreation department here at Los Angeles State College is eagerly awaiting your next issue.

AL TILLMAN, Assistant Professor of Recreation, Los Angeles State College, California.

Letter from Paris

Sirs:

Milwaukee's newest addition, the Memorial Center,* seems to be a success, if the November 4 Time magazine article, "Museum with a View," is a true indication. Milwaukee residents are to be congratulated, and the leaders of this project are to be commended for a job well done. The community will be rewarded for its pains. Churches, education, industries, recreation, and even the "Braves," will reap the fruits of this venture.

Endeavors such as this are big business. Cities need more of it, particularly in the areas of art, music, and museums. Well-planned projects induce proper execution and mean money well spent.

JOHN TRENT, HQ USEUCOM
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* See "Milestones," RECREATION, June 1957, page 213.

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Things You Should Know . . .

► NEW JOB OPENINGS are announced by the Air Force which, with the help of the National Recreation Association, is establishing recreation departments at its various bases. The new job classification will be that of "recreation manager." See your NRA Associate Membership Letter, November-December 1957, for further details or write to NRA Personnel Service.

► BROTHERWOOD WEEK, February 16-23. "Brotherhood is one of the most demanding—and most rewarding—principles in our lives. Its application is not limited to our homes or to our homeland. The responsibilities of brotherhood stretch around the world; and wherever men dwell, their needs and their successes are for all to share."

"The furtherance of such a principle demands the utmost in justice and charity, but the rewards of brotherhood are even greater. These are the fruits of a world at peace."—PRESIDENT DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER, Honorary Chairman.

Write for Brotherhood Week program suggestions to the National Conference of Christians and Jews, 43 West 57th Street, New York 19.

► REGISTRATION FOR THE SEMINAR ON RECREATION FOR THE EMOTIONALLY DISTURBED, at Columbia University, starts February 1, at 9:00 A.M. This course is conducted in cooperation with the National Recreation Association's Ill and Handicapped Recreation Consultation Service. To obtain further information write Dr. Elizabeth Rosen, Box 70, Department of Health Education, Physical Education, and Recreation, Teachers College, Columbia University, New York 27.

► TOURISM CAN BE A GOLD MINE for your community! A recent United Press release quotes a booklet just issued by the Department of Commerce Office of Area Development, which states that it has become a national industry grossing about fifteen or twenty billion dollars a year. The booklet is designed to help communities cash in on this industry.

► A BILL TO AUTHORIZE THE DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS PROPERTY to certain welfare

and recreation agencies, H.R. 9522, to amend the Federal Property and Administration Services Act of 1949, has been introduced by Congressman Kenneth B. Keating of New York. His bill would make much surplus federal property available to tax-supported or tax-exempt welfare or recreation agencies which serve people in institutions or in groups. This is in line with National Recreation Association recommendations. Congressman Keating will be glad to send copies of his bill to those who are interested.

► EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS FOR CHILDREN about holidays and their backgrounds—history, ceremonials, music, and so on—is available from the American Friends Service Committee. Booklets giving guidance to parents, teachers, and leaders are included. For a list, write to the committee at 20 South 12th Street, Philadelphia 7.

► THE NEW ISSUE of *Standards For Girl Scout Camping* is now available from the Girl Scouts of the U.S.A., 830 Third Avenue, New York 22 (note new address!), for thirty cents. It replaces the earlier *Established Camp Standards, Day Camp Standards, and Troop Camp Standards*. Camp and day-camp directors should order a copy of this twenty-five page, well-organized and instructive booklet.

► HOSPITAL RECREATION WORKERS will be interested in a new periodical, *Recreation for the Ill and Handicapped*, published quarterly by the National Association of Recreational Therapists, organized in 1953. Non-member rates are \$1.50 per year. Address all requests to Virginia L. Dobbins, Bryce Hospital, Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

► SPECIAL—for January, February, and March only! Six copies of any of the following issues of *RECREATION* for one dollar:

April through December, 1955.
April through December, 1956.

► A NEW SERVICE! Readers, have you carefully examined the new department, "Classified Advertising," in *RECREATION Magazine* to find out whether it can be of value to you? (See page 7.) This additional service offers you an opportunity to call attention to forthcoming conferences, training institutes and workshops, job openings, positions wanted, used or excess equipment to exchange, share with or sell to another community. This is open at a special price to you—and not to professional firms—but, please note, it can be offered to you only if you pay when you order! Take advantage of this new section; watch it for announcements that will help you; use it as a means of communicating with others. This means you!

► A TWENTY-PAGE Digest of Actions Relating to Recreation (passed by the 1957 legislature and approved by the governor) was released in August to California state and local recreation and park officials. It contains comments on forty assembly and twenty-four senate measures which became effective September 11, 1957, unless otherwise specifically provided for in the bill (urgency measures). Copies may be secured on request from offices of the State Recreation Commission at 722 Capitol Avenue, Room 3076, Sacramento 14. ■

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Editorially Speaking

For the Year Ahead

At the end of the old year and the beginning of the new, one becomes introspective, sorting out some of the past year's happier or more inspiring moments and turning to anticipation of what lies ahead. Let us take advantage of this inevitable moment of evaluation . . . What did the year hold that was memorable for you? For the job you have undertaken?

Life is made up of tomorrows—and past experiences can be the basis of successes in the days to come. What the year ahead may hold can to some extent be molded by building on past failures as well as on achievements and present needs.

Examine the articles in this issue of RECREATION in the light of the old year and the new leaves to be turned in 1958. Consider the ideas in their titles, for instance, such as: "Your Office—Its Importance to Your Job"; "Plan That New Art and Craft Room"; "A Citizens' Theater—By and For the People"; "The Superintendent's Code of Principles"; and others.

* * *

Tomorrow's world will demand citizens who know and understand varying ways of life and thought, and such knowledge cannot be had from books. It must be found in personal and mutual experience, so that we Americans may know other peoples, and they may know us.— Pearl S. Buck.

Brotherhood

"An international, intercultural program in American camps or other youth programs is a healthy one in the broadest sense," writes Dr. Ralph J. Bunche, Under-Secretary of the United Nations, "educationally and spiritually as well as physically. Experience of this kind makes a vital contribution to firm foundations for democracy, brotherhood, and peace in the world."

Make your plans now for your special program for Brotherhood Week, February 16 to 23 this year.

No Stopping

As we cruise along into 1958, in what has become an age of speed, the following warning comments from a recent issue of *Notes** are very apt:

"Spinning along the New York State Thruway, one occasionally notices this

sign— **NO STOPPING EXCEPT FOR REPAIRS** and

may become bemused, as the words hum their way into the mind and lodge in the memory. The analogy between the buzzing Thruway and the hectic highway of our own lives deepens and grows all too vivid until those words

seem— **NO STOPPING EXCEPT FOR REPAIRS**

almost ghoulishly—to be the haunting characterization of our twentieth century. We seem to be part of a great migration, headed somewhere, under way, under a goad, hurried and harried, 'committed,' and responsible—*No stopping except for repairs.*"

To think of a vacation as a repair job may not be particularly appealing, but it has both practical and amusing features; and it may waken us to certain discoveries. Perhaps we would gain if we stopped this everlasting scuttling about and took a longer, freer stride. Perhaps "repairs" should be a daily rather than an annual process—the old "stitch in time" or "ounce of prevention" that was once in favor. Perhaps *maintenance* is a word that should be revived, although, as has been said, "There's no publicity in

* A reference bulletin published by the New York Public Library.

maintenance." And perhaps Socrates was right, and "the unexamined life is not worth living."

Can Sports Promote Peace?

The Sports Committee of President Eisenhower's People-to-People Program is making a search for an answer to this question. How, for instance, can a discus thrower make a pitch for peace?

The committee reports that, according to the figures in Communist record books, the Iron Curtain countries are outplaying us in the field of international sports exchanges fifteen to one. However, the other side of the coin sees the light of day in a recent article in the *Archers' Magazine*,** "Americans in Prague Win Medals, Hands and Hearts," which tells the story of our American archery team competing in the 18th World Championship in Czechoslovakia. It states, "We won the tournament and we won hundreds of new friends. We worked harder at making friends than we did at shooting and are not sorry."

President Eisenhower, in keynoting a White House conference of leading Americans who had assembled to tackle this problem of creating a better understanding between Americans and people abroad, presented the matter in these words:

"If we are going to take advantage of the assumption that all people want peace, then the problem is for people to get together and to leap governments—if necessary to evade governments—to work out not one but thousands of methods by which people can gradually learn a little bit more of each other."

A People-to-People Sports Committee was considered a natural, along with various other methods. Eddie Eagan, a well-known sports figure since the days when he won the Olympic heavyweight boxing championship, was appointed chairman. He says: "Let us elevate sports to the status of ambassador. Let's take a fresh look at man's urge to play and recognize it for what it is—a living force of tremendous potential in the development of friendship and understanding among peoples." ■

** September 1957 issue.

Your Office . . .

Its Importance to Your Job

A New Leaf for the New Year

Virginia Musselman

RECENT VISITS to the offices of several social agencies, businesses, and professions have provoked this article.

It seems that professions dealing with those services that make life brighter for people are very likely to be housed in offices that give little or no indication of the warmth, the interest, the objectives or the results of those services, or of the personalities of the people working in them.

On the other hand, the offices of lawyers almost always give the feeling of stability and security. The chairs are large and comfortable, the tables sturdy, the colors dark but rich. Doctors' offices give an atmosphere of reassurance. There are piles of current magazines, chairs are soft, reading lamps and ashtrays handy. Often one corner of the room has child-size furniture and toys for the younger visitors. The offices of the business firms are again a contrast, with the furniture modern, colors brighter and gayer.

Whether modern or conservative, these offices have two qualities in common: the visitor is welcomed; his comfort is important. These offices are, in other words, objective.

In contrast, the offices of some social agencies are subjective. They show a preoccupation with their own inner workings. They do not project. A visitor feels almost an intruder. No special provision has been made for his comfort. Often the furniture is old and not very comfortable. Walls are dark, lighting poor. Nothing indicates that the services of the agency are important. Do the offices of recreation de-

partments fall into this category?

If so, what are the reasons for this? An obvious one may be the budget, although "maintenance" usually gets a pretty fair slice of available funds. Swimming pools must be filtered and cleaned, tennis courts freshly lined, park lawns mowed, playground equipment repaired, and so on. Such maintenance is primarily to please the public. Why isn't an attractive, pleasing office just as important? Why can't a maintenance crew refinish furniture and old filing cabinets, paint walls, lay an inexpensive, easy-to-clean floor, build a display cabinet, and a good-looking bulletin board? Even in a one-man department, nobody should have to step over half-inflated volley balls, or look at a yellowed photograph of years back, or brush dust off a chair before using it.

Another reason for drab recreation offices may be the fact that they are frequently located in the municipal building or another city building, among other civic departments. There are two considerations here. The first one is what every woman knows—that making a room attractive takes more thought than money. The second consideration is easy—does the office have to be in this place? If there's a new beautiful center just built or in process of being built, why couldn't the office be moved into it? This has been done in Seattle, Washington; Lincoln, Nebraska; Indianapolis, Indiana; Greensboro, North Carolina; and in other cities, too.

If this is possible, then plan that office space! When your recreation board meets, will the setting emphasize its importance? When a mother comes in to ask about planning a birthday

party, a teacher to ask about simple craft projects, a committee to talk about getting a new playground—where can you or your staff give the best service and make the best impression? When craft leaders or dance instructors want to experiment with new media or new music, where can they do it without disrupting the clerical staff? Where can you concentrate on your annual report or the talk you're giving before the Rotary Club? Plan the recreation office for service.

Possibly another reason for unattractive offices is the old idea that beauty means frivolity. Those days are gone forever! Observe what's happened to the kitchen and bathroom of yesterday! Look at the winged fenders and the ice cream colors of the modern cars. Look at telephones, fountain pens, typewriters—once all a uniform black, now in every color of the rainbow.

The chief reason for the inertia in making recreation offices attractive is a simple one—habit. We got used to tans and browns, old filing cabinets, desks with rough edges, chairs that have seen better days, windows that need washing. We don't look at them with a fresh, comparative eye, as a new board member will, or a reporter, or any other "outsider."

Yet we deal with the most exciting of all commodities—people. We provide the most attractive products—leisure-time activities. Manufacturers of everything from cigarettes to motor-boats fill their ads and their TV commercials with recreation activities—square dancing, baseball, fishing, skiing, swimming—yet how many recreation offices have pictures or photographs that show their own activity

MISS MUSSELMAN is director, NRA Program Service.



programs? Department stores and manufacturers set up seasonal displays of china, jewelry, table mats—but how many recreation department offices do the same with the products of their arts and crafts classes? (A hobby show once a year is not a substitute.)

Sporting goods stores know the decorative value of sports equipment, but how many departments use baseball bats, gloves and masks, or other interesting equipment in season to symbolize their sports program? Theater marquees show photographs of dramatic scenes to publicize their plays—but do recreation departments?

What Can Be Done?

First of all, change your point of view. Look at the office as though you had never seen it before. Ask your staff—and your wife—to do the same. Discuss it. Do a little brainstorming to get ideas. Think of the office as the heart of the department, the one place where anyone can get a bird's-eye view of your city-wide program.

Don't be afraid of color. Think how important a place color has in our thoughts and in our language. We are "tickled pink" when we're pleased; we "see red" when we're angry; we "feel blue" when we're depressed. These expressions are based on the effects that colors have on us, both physiologically and psychologically.

With all the new, inexpensive and easy-to-apply paints of today, there's no excuse for drab, colorless walls. Rooms that are bright with sun can be painted a cool, soft, restful color. Rooms that are dark can be made to come alive with a sunny, warm color.

If you're cursed with old, shabby wooden desks, filing cabinets, chairs and tables, you have two choices. You can sandpaper them down to the natural wood, then give them a filler coat, and shellac or varnish them, or give them a coat of flat white paint or shell-

lac and paint them to match the walls—a good way to make a small room look larger.

Filing cabinets, whether wood or metal, are indispensable—but unattractive. Metal ones, usually tan, green or grey, stick out like sore thumbs wherever they are. They can be recessed, however, by building shelves on each side—for displays of arts and crafts, puppets, sports equipment and/or for your recreation library.

Pictures? There are many possibilities. For large wall areas what could be better than photomurals.* If you like photos of people better than of places, blow up some good action shots, a picture of a playground full of youngsters, a child working hard at a craft project, and so on. Scenic views make beautiful murals, too—a park, a beach, a golf course, the winter scenes.

If the wall area is large and the pictures fairly small they'll be lost unless you group them. Contrasts are interesting: the very first playground and the very latest, the first recreation building and the latest, with description and date under each.

If you're not afraid of color, there's nothing gayer than children's paintings. Use fairly large white mats for them, and frame them with simple, natural wood. You'll be surprised at what conversation pieces they will become. There are also the inexpensive prints of famous artists that have a recreation flavor—Degas and his ballet children, Brueghel and his street festival scenes, children's portraits by Manet or Van Gogh—any museum or store that sells prints will offer you a wide choice. With all the painters in the art classes in your town, however, why should you have to go far afield? Borrow them! It's good promotion, and you'll have frequent changes.

*See "Brighten That Dark Corner" by Mary Frances Sargent, RECREATION, February, 1957.

Your office should have a magazine rack, too, on which you keep the latest issues of RECREATION (naturally!), Parents' magazine, Junior Arts, and any others that you find helpful.

A large, fresh map of the park and recreation areas in your community, properly marked with colored pins, is not only decorative, but will give you a chance to "educate" your visitors. But to keep it up to date! A stale map is like yesterday's newspaper.

Little touches can be very effective. A bowl of flowers, a healthy growing plant will give some life to the office. Don't underestimate simple desk accessories, like blotters, for example. Look at the one on your desk right now. Is it fresh and clean, or is it nondescript in color, with the edges of the desk pad stuffed with notes?

Take down the wall calendars, and use a desk one instead. Take down that postcard from Florida that somebody sent you years ago, that cartoon that was funny at the time but is now curling with age. Don't put anything on the walls unless it adds to the general attractiveness of the office.

A bulletin board will provide a place for schedules, special notices, cartoons. Use cork or pegboard and water-soluble paint to make it any color you wish, and change the colors once in a while. Decorate occasionally with a seasonal or topical theme.

No matter what color scheme you use, or what decorations, the office should be neat and clean. Typewriters should be covered when not in use. Coats and hats should be hung up or put in lockers. Desks should be cleared at night.

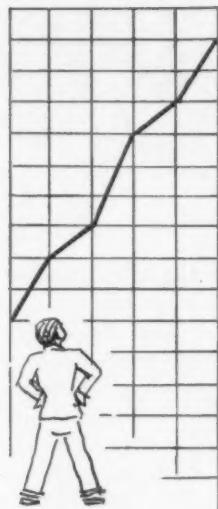
If you are proud of your department and its work, your office should reflect that pride. Any visitors, as well as your staff and yourself, should sense in your office the true values of a rich and varied program for all ages, and should feel, as a result, a confidence that the department gives effective service. ■

Editor's note: The author left hurriedly to change the blotters in her office. In addition to the above, see also the April 1957 NEA Journal for "There's Always Room for Beauty," and the October 1957 issue of RECREATION, "Public Relations in Recreation."

Research in Action

E. H. Thacker

Is your recreation department actively engaged in research? Mr. Thacker presents some of the know-how.



BEFORE BEING accused of impersonating a researcher, perhaps I had better explain what the District of Columbia Recreation Department considers its definition of research. Mr. Webster says research is "critical and exhaustive investigation or experimentation, having for its aim the discovery of new facts and their correct interpretation, the revision of accepted conclusions in the light of these newly discovered facts or the practical application of these facts and conclusions." As an operating agency we take a slightly modified view of it. We emphasize the practical approach, using our brand of research as a means of solution to a current problem. We are not convinced that a research worker would consider our methods as "critical and exhaustive." Instead, we might substitute "objective, impartial, and analytical."

We seek immediate and applicable answers to operating problems. We try to look objectively at present methods, procedures, and operations. We expect the researcher to make an impartial study and draw conclusions from the facts obtained. We insist on an analytical approach where all factors are compared and evaluated before recommendations are made. Within this broader and more general definition of research the District of Columbia Recreation Department conducts a variety of studies. The department employs a recreation analyst who devotes most of his time to these studies.

Types of Problems

Our studies embrace many topics ranging from whether a particular playground should have a tennis practice board to the fees paid softball umpires to a comprehensive review of the public recreation system. They are concerned with problems of policy, administration, organization, and program. Studies under way or completed include:

1. Night-lit ball fields—need for, use of, cost of,

From a report given at the National Recreation Congress in Long Beach, California. MR. THACKER is recreation analyst in the District of Columbia Recreation Department.

power costs paid by? And other such questions.

2. Sunday use of school buildings and grounds—hours, activities permitted, control.
3. Community use of school buildings—by profit and nonprofit groups, fees for use.
4. Maintenance practices—their adequacy, economy, efficiency.
5. Position assignments—desirable personnel strength per unit, safety and control factors, program needs, deficiencies.
6. Neighborhood studies—need for playground, facilities needed, activity preferences, participation by age and sex, and so on.
7. Evaluation of existing areas—cost analysis, attendance, cost per participant.

Methods and Procedures

The District of Columbia Recreation Department conducts much of its work through committees. There are several standing committees, and ad hoc committees are formed as needed. Some of the broader studies are conducted by the latter. These are staff committees, board committees, or a combination of both. Occasionally there are interagency committees with representatives from the public schools, the parks office, or the planning commission, joining in a study of mutual problems. In every instance the recreation analyst is responsible for conducting or guiding the research part of the committee's work; other studies are his sole responsibility. He determines the scope of the study, outlines methods and procedures, assembles the data, draws conclusions, and makes recommendations.

One or a combination of several methods is used. Neighborhood surveys are used if the problem concerns a particular playground or neighborhood. Some studies require a gathering of statistics. We use questionnaires occasionally, sent to comparable cities across the country. We choose cities, that to our knowledge, have similar problems or may have already solved such a problem. The questionnaires may be quite detailed, as in our maintenance study,

or they may be a "quickie" type. These comprise two, three, or four questions requiring "yes" or "no" answers on a double postcard. We send these to selected cities to fill us in on a particular policy or practice. We have had a good percentage of returns from this type.

Occasionally our research needs only a summation of historic data. This may be acquired from the files and records of our own department and the minutes of board meetings, or through a search of books, periodicals, and other published sources. The compilation of historic data gives us the opportunity of observing trends, re-evaluating our operations, and changing or reaffirming our policies.

Our neighborhood surveys are sometimes intricate enough to require door-to-door canvass of each home. Washington's population is always in a state of flux. We need to know whom we are serving, whether we have a different age group than formerly, whether our neighborhood is changing over to boarding houses, apartments, or commercial establishments. Sometimes we sample attitudes of residents to a change of program or new facilities. In one instance we made such canvass prior to erecting a tennis practice board, to determine possible objection to noise or early morning use.

As much as we like neighborhood studies and the house-to-house method of obtaining facts, we realize they entail a certain amount of risk. Interviewers must be very carefully



trained or they may cause more harm than good. What might have been effective public relations can, through mismanagement, cause irreparable harm to the recreation department.

We do not always need to make a house-to-house canvass, however. Frequently we can get the information we need from other sources. Our own recreation leaders have an excellent store of information about the neighborhood in which they work. Civic groups and PTA's help, as do churches and private youth-serving agencies. Census reports also help, although in a city like Washington we must remember that conditions change rapidly and 1950 census statistics are likely to be outdated. However, our local government, by pooling data from various sources, estimates annual population changes with reasonable accuracy.

The compilation of all data is pointless unless it is carefully studied and evaluated. The committee, or individual, making the study analyzes it to determine whether it is valid, reliable, and pertinent. In drawing conclusions we must compare it to some sort of standard. In some instances we can find an accepted national standard applicable to our study. This might be as elementary as the desirable standard of one acre of playground for each eight hundred population, or we might compare our expenditures with

the desirable six dollars per capita for parks and recreation.

When we cannot find a generally accepted standard, we must establish our own. We might contrast our practices with those of other comparable cities, as determined by our questionnaires and surveys. If the data we have can be analyzed statistically, we do so and use the mean as a measure of standard. We have also used standard deviations and coefficients of correlation in our statistical analyses. From a statistical treatment we have determined the average cost per participant for each of our playgrounds. Also, we know the maintenance cost per acre and per participant; the average leadership load in programming; the number of leader and custodial hours spent at each unit; the cost of supplies and utilities, and so on. Further statistical analysis permits us to spot immediately units where one or more of these costs are excessive or extremely low. Then by subjective analysis we can draw conclusions and prepare recommendations for further action.

In drawing conclusions and preparing recommendations, we must always remember that we are dealing with people.



Thus cost alone is not a consideration in curtailing services. We must contrast cost against local recreation needs. After all, a basic purpose of public recreation is to provide services and facilities with which the public cannot normally supply itself. Therefore, we must sometimes continue programs or services, seemingly excessive in cost and personnel time expended. These are the subjective factors, completely contradicting statistical and other factual information, which influence our conclusions and recommendations. The value of objective information obtained from a study lies in finding easier or more efficient ways of administering a program.

Advantages of Research

Certainly there are other approaches to research at the operating level. Other cities and other individuals may organize their program differently. Other methods and procedures can produce as good, if not better, results. We have outlined how one city has combined research with its program operations. It has paid off for us. Our correspondence with other cities has kept us informed of their current trends and solution of mutual problems.

Some of our studies have enabled us to gather pertinent facts from many sources and assemble them in logical and permanent form. These reports justify our existence and our purposes. The frequent use of statistics has illustrated the value of an orderly and consistent collection of numerical facts about our operations from year to year.

We have found that neighborhood studies can be most helpful as a public relations tool. A door-to-door canvass is an excellent means of spreading program information,

and it can be a means of exposing even more people to community recreation. Drawing citizen groups into studies has another advantage. It helps them feel that they are part of the recreation department, that their thoughts and attitudes are important, and that they have a voice in affairs of government. This is important in an otherwise voteless city.

From the standpoint of the executive, conclusions reached by research enable him to present recommendations with a marked degree of confidence. It removes hesitancy and doubt, and places him in a strong position in dealing with his board. A feeling of authority and security is reflected in his presentation.

Limitations

We face limitations and disadvantages, too, in conducting our studies. It is impossible to obtain complete information through correspondence. A questionnaire brief enough to elicit a reply limits the breadth and depth of the information obtained. If questionnaires are too long and detailed they are never returned. We occasionally find that replies to our questionnaires are superficial, hastily answered, inaccurate and perhaps contradictory. When this happens, it indicates that we have failed. We probably have not described the problem in terms easily understood by the recipient or have not identified a mutual problem. We know, however, that we are dealing with the human element here, and there are hectic days in every recreation executive's life when nothing would provoke an understanding response. We have those kinds of days ourselves.

There is a danger, too, in relying too heavily on statistics to document our conclusions and recommendations. Whatever statistics are used should be valid and reliable enough to eliminate the personal bias of the researcher. The statistical concepts must be well founded and applicable to the problem under study; and cold, hard figures do not consider the human factor.

Lessons Learned

To help us in the future, we try to remember the following points.

In questionnaires:

1. Keep them short.
2. Study and phrase each item carefully to make sure it is clear, understandable, and able to elicit the information desired.
3. Phrase questions to require a short answer or checkmark only.
4. Phrase questions so that the answers can easily be compiled statistically.
5. Ask only for information that you believe is readily available.

"Nothing that man has created is outside his capacity to change, to remold, to supplant, or to destroy. His machines are no more sacred or substantial than the dreams in which they originated."

—LEWIS MUMFORD in *The Condition of Man.*

When using statistics:

1. Insist on accuracy.
2. Do not confuse the problem with inappropriate statistics. Use statistics only when necessary to present basic facts.
3. Do not draw conclusions on statistics alone. Consider the human element, special circumstances, and so on.

In neighborhood studies:

1. Train your canvassers carefully.
2. Do not permit them to express their personal thoughts or imply the department's position in a conclusive manner.
3. Require each interviewer to show identification to each resident indicating his connection with the recreation department.
4. Use door-to-door canvasses only when absolutely necessary.
5. When such canvasses are necessary, use each visit as a means of extending and stimulating interest in the program. Let it be a constructive experience for both the employee and resident.

How to Make Research Count

When undertaking research in your city be sure to:

1. Assign a qualified person to the job.
2. Place him high enough in the organization structure so that he will be thoroughly conversant with department policy, operating problems, and program.
3. Let it be a full-time job, if possible—at least give him plenty of time.
4. Sell every member of your staff and your board on the importance of research.
5. Conduct research only on vital problems. An operating agency cannot afford to engage in basic research unless it answers a pressing problem.
6. Cooperate with colleges and universities and students doing research. Bend over backwards, if need be, to aid them; it may aid you, too, later on.
7. Always use results of research to change or confirm policies, programs, and operations. Give research credit for whatever decisions are made.

In a nutshell, an operating agency cannot afford to neglect research any more than a university can. It is the backbone of all modern professions. It must be the backbone of ours. It is the combined responsibility of recreation administrators, program leaders, educators, and everyone else interested in the recreation movement. Research is the key to the enlarged programs and services that must be developed to take care of tomorrow's increased leisure. Through research let us make ready today for the years and years ahead. ■

"Operation Well Boy"

WIDE ATTENTION throughout the state of California is being attracted by a recreation department program inaugurated in 1956 in Montebello. It has to do with the too often overlooked matter of making sure that the boys participating in strenuous sports are physically sound; in other words, the good old physical examination. This program, unique in the recreation field at its inception, points up one of the weaknesses of our athletic and sports programs to date. As the recreation profession matures, let us hope any existing lack of consideration regarding health hazards will be corrected accordingly.

The program of free physical examinations for boys participating in organized junior baseball in Montebello grew out of the search for answers to these basic questions.

- Why are athletic activities for pre-teens, teen-agers and adults being conducted regularly throughout the state when so little is known about the physical condition of the participants?
- Why are many of these activities operated on public agency facilities, either commercially sponsored or agency sponsored, without stopping to consider the moral obligation in providing physical examinations for participants?
- Why is this phase of dealing with people considered so important in educational institutions and still bypassed by recreation agencies?
- Why don't we do something about it?

This wide-awake department, like others throughout the state, was well aware of the physical and emotional stresses that boys in this age bracket (nine to seventeen) are subjected to through the highly competitive "win or else" situation, by which many of these extradepartmental activities are unfortunately operated. Thus, they came up with a plan called "Operation Well Boy."

This was set up in a way very similar to an armed services physical examination or to those conducted by the schools. The total examination was free

to all participants. It was hardly conceivable that some six hundred boys playing junior baseball during the summer months would be able to obtain regular health certificates from private physicians, so the following steps were taken to provide these through the department of recreation—at a very small cost to the sponsoring agency:



1. A local, civic-minded physician volunteered to establish a committee of other doctors who would volunteer their services on one Saturday to examine the boys.

2. Junior Baseball Association officials were notified where and when the examination would be held.

3. Teams in the three leagues had definite examination-time schedules to eliminate unnecessary waiting and inconvenience.

4. Routing sheets and combination registration-report cards were drawn up for each boy.* These included such information as age, league, home address, phone number, and space for a report. Here the examining doctors could indicate each boy's condition in the following physical categories: vision, heart, lungs, hernia, skin.

5. Each doctor conducted only one phase of the examination; thereby, a constant flow of those to be examined was established.

Was It Worth It?

The answer to this question is definitely yes. Although Montebello had the unfortunate experience of having a

* Further information, including sample forms, may be obtained by writing the Montebello Recreation Department.

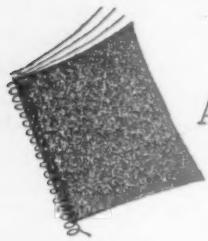
few uncooperative volunteer managers remove their teams from the area before they were examined, some four hundred boys were examined, and the findings were highly enlightening. In fact, some possible tragedies probably were averted. Two serious heart cases and other doubtful heart conditions were discovered, of which the parents were unaware, as well as a great number of sight deficiencies—from minor to very serious in nature—numerous cases of hernia, and some chronic skin disorders.

Although Montebello started "Operation Well Boy" for an organized extradepartmental baseball league, it is, of course, equally or even more valid for other sports activities, such as touch football, basketball, and so on. Greater stress was placed upon examining the pre-teen group because physical examinations do not become stringent in most school districts until boys reach the junior high school or secondary grades. In the cases of teen-age boys who had received a complete school examination, a confirming note from the school physician, or school nurse was accepted in lieu of the examination by the local recreation department.

Can This Project Be Improved?

Since this was a pioneer project, it is natural that some errors were made. One, for example, was that volunteer team managers were depended upon to deliver the results of each boy's examination to his parents. Some managers failed to do this. It is quite conceivable that, as more agencies adopt this or a similar plan, improvements will be made.

The recreation department in Montebello found a great deal of assistance was offered by local and metropolitan Los Angeles newspapers, radio and television, and even the international news services, such as INS and AP. Editors and reporters know that citizens are always interested in the welfare of their children. Thus, the public was made aware of another service being provided for them by their local public recreation department. As a valuable by-product, excellent public relations were established. Similar cooperation could be forthcoming in most localities. ■



A REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK

New Appointments

• Robert L. Black has been appointed as a National Recreation Association representative, replacing Harold Lathrop, for the Midwest District. A native of Nebraska, Mr. Black has been in community recreation and related work for twenty years. For the past six years he has carried important field and administrative responsibilities as a staff member of the Missouri Division of Resources and Development. He has also been a local executive for the Boy Scouts in Massachusetts, assistant superintendent of recreation in Lincoln, Nebraska, and superintendent of recreation in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and Lakeland, Florida.

Mr. Lathrop, who has been with the Association since 1946, is well-known for his assistance to state agencies and officials concerned with recreation in the eighteen western states he has served during recent years, and for his many years of service in the field of parks and recreation in Minnesota before that. He is a life director of the National Conference of State Parks. On January 1, he is taking up new duties as director of the Colorado State Park and Recreation Board. Good luck, Harold!

• After twelve years as Pacific Northwest District representative for the National Recreation Association, Willard H. Shumard has been appointed executive director of program for the recreation commission in Oakland, California. Bill assumes his new duties January 1, replacing Alta Sims Bunker



who recently retired after many years of service. Although a Nebraskan, Bill has been adopted by the Northland for his services in the recreation field during these years, and he will be greatly missed. His replacement on the Association staff will be announced in the near future.

• Margaret Dankworth, formerly of the National Recreation Association, has accepted a position with the American Institute of Park Executives, at Wheeling, West Virginia, after twelve years with the Association. Since 1952, she has been executive secretary of the NRA's Toledo office and has worked with volunteers in the Midwest District. Dave Langkammer * assumes some of her responsibilities along with his duties as new Association representative in that area.

Brrr!

With ice and snow covering a good part of the country, it is interesting to check on winter activities. We unearthed the following figures from the 1956 *Recreation and Park Yearbook*.

Activity	No. of cities reporting	No. of participants
Coasting	89	124,817
Ice Hockey	67	23,291
Skating	212	707,193
Skiing	68	31,460
Tobogganing	34	25,016

Skating would appear to be in first place, with old-fashioned coasting gliding along in second. Four hundred and seventy cities reported 911,777 of their sports-minded citizens cavorting—and falling—in the snow and ice last year.

Square Dancers, Attention!

The American square dance has entered more sophisticated circles, as well

* See RECREATION, December 1957, page 360.

as the field of art, with the debut of a new ballet by George Balanchine, entitled "Square Dance," performed at the City Center in New York City recently. It was acclaimed with rousing cheers. Drawing upon American folklore, Mr. Balanchine has caught the joyousness and exhilaration of the American square and adapted it to the more classical form—an interesting and successful experiment! An outstanding caller, Elisha Keeler, has been employed to call the turns—to music by Corelli and Vivaldi. Louis Biancolli reviewing the ballet in the *New York World-Telegram*, says, "His [Mr. Balanchine's] creation is the heart and soul of the dance . . . 'Square Dance' may be warmly prescribed for all members of the family. Even confirmed ballet-haters will like it."

Mr. Balanchine could, no doubt, have picked up additional ideas had he been present at the Vessels' Ranch, in Long Beach, California, in October, when Recreation Congress square dancers cut loose under the stars.

Recognition for Authors

A plan initiated in California this fall might well be a good idea for other states, or state societies. The Pi Sigma Epsilon, a recreation fraternity, has announced its intention to encourage and recognize registered recreation workers in California who have made significant contributions to professional recreation literature. Anyone who has published articles in nationally distributed magazines, or who has published other materials or books which have received the commendations of professional organizations, may submit these for consideration. Awards are to be presented at the next California recreation conference.

IN MEMORIAM

EDWARD J. PERKINS, councilman and supervisor of the County Board of Supervisors in Green Bay, Wisconsin, and president of its park board since 1937, died November 26. He was eighty-seven. Long active in many phases of community life, Mr. Perkins' last vigorous effort was against selling any of the land in the Perkins Park tract, maintaining that Green Bay would need that land for future recreation purposes.



Ship boys in the rigging of the Mayflower II on its voyage from Plymouth, England. Leaders, please note that American youth was represented on this historical trip by Joe Meany, left, of the Waltham (Massachusetts) Boys' Club, the 1957 Boys' Clubs of America Junior Citizenship Award Winner. With him is his British counterpart, Graham Nunn, of Great Britain's National Association of Boys' Clubs. Prior to boarding the Mayflower, Joe enjoyed a series of tours in Holland, arranged by Royal Dutch Airlines. He was accompanied by A. Boyd Hinds, associate national director of Boys' Clubs of America, as a part of President Eisenhower's People-to-People Program.

The square-dance craze has hit West Germany with a bang, according to Lt. John K. Trent, an officer in U. S. Navy Reserve now on active duty in Bremerhaven, who has been a "caller" for dance programs there. "It is impossible to translate American square-dance patter into German. . . . German callers use the 'prompt system,' whereby the call is limited to giving exact instructions." Below, German girls and American service men get into the groove "hoedown style" at Radio City Service Club, Bremerhaven. The language difference appears to present no barriers.



These young people in Leonia, New Jersey, are the lucky ones! They have as a friend and neighbor Pat Boone, singer and actor, here surrounded by some of his ardent admirers as he awards trophies at the local community center there.

People in the Recreation News



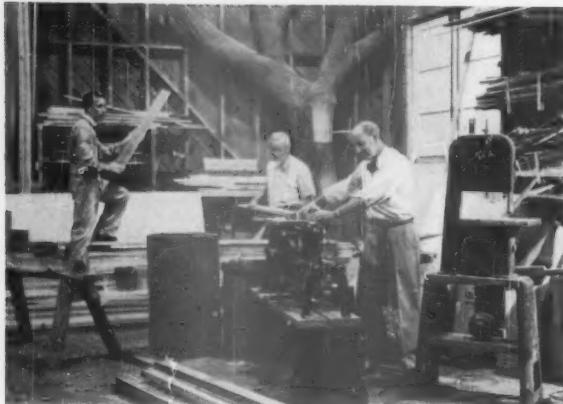
R. S. Miller of Troy, New York, right, receives a National Recreation Association citation, for his outstanding service to recreation, from Jimmy Madison of the Association's field staff. An attorney and former chairman of the board of the Lincoln Community Center, Mr. Miller has been connected with the city-wide development of recreation, on a volunteer basis, since 1939. Mr. Madison has recently returned from a recreation stint in Europe under the auspices of the USAFE and the United States State Department.



Constantin Bakaleinikoff, a well-known musician-conductor, takes over the baton of the Huntington Park, California, community orchestra. Citizens are delighted with their famous volunteer, whom they affectionately call "Backie," and have been astute enough to take advantage of all he so generously offers. Mrs. Gene Heer, supervisor of recreation in Huntington Park says, "We are very proud of the progress of our symphony orchestra. . . . Dr. Bakaleinikoff has continued to be a delightful person to work with. He displays a philosophy consistent with recreation goals in handling personnel. He always arrives on time, never misses a rehearsal. . . ." His goal is one hundred members.

Kappa Kappa Kappa chapters in ten northern Indiana cities are providing an Indiana University scholarship, worth \$4,000 over a four-year period, for Frank G. Smith of Logansport (center below), who plans to resume a post with the recreation department of the Logansport State Hospital. With him are two faculty members of the university's recreation department, Professor Garrett G. Eppley (left), department chairman, and Professor Reynold E. Carlson. The Indiana Department of Mental Health is a participant in the NRA internship program, started in 1956.





Volunteers construct scenery for the theater division of the recreation department in Palo Alto, California. Committees plan and make the costumes and props.

WIDE, ACTIVE participation in the affairs of the community theater is encouraged for all citizens in Palo Alto, California. As this theater operates as a division of the Palo Alto Recreation Department, the most important of its specific aims is to provide participants with opportunities for interesting and creative recreation activities. Its primary, broad aim, of course, is to provide entertainment for the local public in terms of highest quality, taste, and excellence. Results are social participation, creative effort, and a feeling of friendliness.

Realization of those aims is helped by the fact that it is the only community theater in the United States completely tax supported, operating on an annual budget of over \$25,000. The seven major productions presented each season sometimes turn back as much as \$16,000 a year to the city treasury and play to thousands of residents of Palo Alto and the San Francisco Bay area.

The Palo Alto Community Theatre did not become successful overnight. In 1931 a group of actors met at the community house, a World War I frame building by the railroad tracks. The conditions under which they worked were far from ideal. Sets were built of wrapping paper that rattled when trains went by; production expenses were necessarily kept at a minimum.

In 1932 Mrs. Louis Stern, as a mag-

Mr. SMITH is superintendent of Palo Alto Recreation Department, California.

A Citizens' Theater

Shall we get our community theater started this year?



Scene from the Teen Players' production of *Dino*, adapted from a Studio One TV play. This gave teen-age group an opportunity to deal with a drama on juvenile delinquency.

nificent proof of her interest in the theater, made available funds for the construction of the present building, the first unit of Palo Alto's Community Center. The city accepted the gift of the building, which originally cost \$44,000. Citizens, in receiving this gift, automatically accepted the responsibility of supporting it in subsequent years.

As the adult theater division of the recreation department, the community theater is governed by the people of Palo Alto through the city council, the city manager, and the superintendent of recreation. The theater has its own organized body of lay members whose objective is the production of drama of the highest possible quality. This group of nine members, known as the Executive Board of the Palo Alto Community Players, gives its time and consideration, in an advisory capacity, to the theater's professional staff. The

board selects the plays, outlines the season, and decides policies that will result in an efficient working out of the theater's activities.

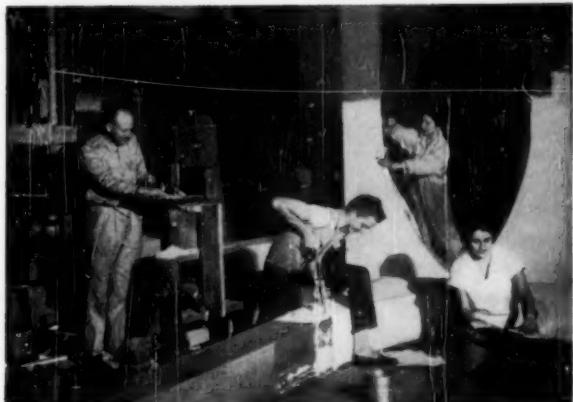
Committee System

To stimulate participation and help solve the innumerable problems arising on each production, a committee system has been adopted. Committee chairmen are appointed by the executive board.

The backstage chairman secures workers to build and paint the scenery. The casting chairman selects a new committee for each tryout, to act as an advisory board to the director. The play-reading chairman supervises the reading of plays possible for production. The chairman of house management secures the house manager, doorman, and ushers for each performance. The membership chairman promotes membership and collects annual dues

—By and For the People

Alec Smith



A backstage committee crew working on Shakespearean scenery (see below). Technical director designs the major productions, prepares model sets and drawings.



Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing*, as staged in the outdoor Patio Theatre. The nine-man executive board of Community Players selects the plays and decides policies.

from the theater's active participants.

The prompter mailing chairman is responsible for preparing the theater's publication, *The Prompter*, for mailing. The public relations chairman publicizes the over-all aims of the program and special activities. The season ticket chairman promotes sales and fills orders for the annual season tickets. The Greenroom hostess is responsible for refreshments served following all performances. The costume and property chairmen head committees that plan, secure, and make the costumes and props needed. The chairman of special activities has jurisdiction over any programs arranged other than regular major productions. The social chairman arranges a cast and crew supper for the Sunday first dress rehearsal and plans the cast party. The chairman of lobby exhibits arranges for showings in the lobby gallery.

Each committee is a vital part in the

functioning of the whole organization. The chairmen bring their problems to the members of the staff or to a bi-monthly meeting of the executive board.

The Theater

The physical facilities of the theater are as complete as can be found anywhere in the United States. The main auditorium seats four hundred and eighteen in comfortable, upholstered seats. The proscenium arch is twenty-six feet wide and fourteen feet high. The stage is sixty feet wide and thirty-six feet deep.

The Greenroom, located off the left side of the stage, has kitchen facilities and a serving counter. This room was originally the workshop, but it afforded only limited space for construction and storage of scenery. In 1948, work began on the John Early Burgess Workshop, an addition donated by one of

the theater's truest friends and hardest workers. The room was dedicated in November of the same year, allowing the original workshop to be used as a room where patrons come after each performance to enjoy refreshments, talk over the show with their friends and members of the cast, and see the stage and the play's settings.

The theater has two large dressing rooms; a rehearsal hall, where tryouts, rehearsals, and occasional readings and experimental productions take place; a costume room, in which thousands of costumes and accessories are stored and sewing on new costumes can be done; and a property room.

There are two offices, where staff members have their desks and where meetings of the executive board are held. The lobby of the theater is large enough to be used as an art gallery; exhibits of painting, photography, crafts, or sculpture accompany each different production. The boxoffice is located off one end of the lobby; above the lobby is a large room used as a projection room and for furniture storage.

Not only does the community theater encourage adult participation; but the Teen Players have presented worthwhile, artistic productions since 1948. The group works under the supervision of the theater's staff but selects its own plays, designs them, organizes its own production committees, chooses its own teen-age director, and does its own casting. Such plays as *Father of the Bride*, *Night of January 16th*, and *The Queen's Husband* have played to large, appreciative summer audiences. ➤

For the special enjoyment of the theater's participating members, a series of programs, "Sundays at Eight," has been inaugurated. Offered approximately every six weeks, these present both solo and group readings of plays, readings of stories, lectures, and musical programs. They, as well as occasional programs of one-act plays, are presented in the sixty-seat rehearsal hall.

Leadership

The supervision of the theater's many activities and its numerous volunteer workers is in the hands of a professional staff consisting of director, assistant to the director, technical director, and a technical assistant.

The director is responsible to the superintendent of recreation for its

actual management, including the planning of the annual budget, arranging rentals of the theater's facilities, and purchasing of equipment and the materials for building productions. He is regular director of the major productions, and, as ex-officio member of the community players' executive board, assists in play selection and season programming.

The assistant to the director is responsible for ticket sales, publicity, theater correspondence, and the costuming of plays. The technical director designs the major productions, prepares model sets and working drawings from which volunteer helpers can work, and supervises the painting of scenery. The technical assistant designs the lighting for each play, and supervises volunteers in scenery con-

struction and in operating the stage switchboard.

Community Support

The theater has a subscription audience that, in some years, has amounted to more than fourteen hundred season ticket members. All citizens of the community are invited to become participating members, to try out for plays, and help with the various jobs. It has been the excellent work of these talented, interested, and efficient member-workers, through the years, that has helped Palo Alto's tax-supported theater remain a major influence in the recreation and cultural life of the community. The true meaning of community theater has been realized because it has tried to be of service to every citizen. ■

"Recreation Rick" Aids a Levy Campaign



With the help of a saucy, tousle-haired cartoon character named "Recreation Rick," the recreation commission in Painesville, Ohio, staged a successful campaign to renew a recreation mill levy November 1956. A timetable of the important events before Painesville's election, and the role played by "Recreation Rick," may be helpful to others in waging future campaigns.

March 19. Recreation commission chose two co-chairmen for the citizens' recreation levy committee.

May 21. Resolution for levy renewal (one half mill for five-year period) adopted by city council.

August 3. Co-chairmen met with Robert B. Oldfather, commission chairman, and Charles S. Brand, recreation director, to outline plans.

September 10. Letters sent to twenty-five steering committee prospects, calling meeting.

September 17. First meeting of steering committee with twenty-one attending. Committee chosen for finance, publicity, and paid advertising, speakers' bureau, and correspondence.

October 1. Steering committee meeting—committee reports. Adman Neal Brown gave birth to "Recreation Rick" as the slogan and symbol of the campaign. Subsequent meetings were of individual committees.

October 12-15. Letters were distributed in school assemblies, asking students to get their parents to "vote for fun" and the recreation levy on November 6.

October 15—November 5. Speakers talked before various groups. Letters to editor and editorials appeared in newspaper urging levy renewal.

October 25. Panel discussion on local radio about levy.

October 29. Junior patrols distributed brochures to every home in the city.

October 29—November 5. Colored posters of "Recreation Rick" appeared in downtown store windows. Drop-in ads of "Recreation Rick" were placed in local newspaper (all spaces were donated by advertisers).

November 3. Bandwagon with high school band members toured city on donated truck with huge sign: "Renew the Recreation Levy."

November 5. Picture of bandwagon on front page of local newspaper. Eighth-graders distributed doorknob hangers to every home in the city.

November 6. Levy passed.

November 26. Received statement bills and cancelled checks from finance committee (\$306 raised from donors).

November 27. Thank-you letters sent to all who helped.

November 30. Levy fund report sent to board of elections.

Difficulties Encountered: The board of elections did not want to put the word "recreation" on the ballot (five city issues were up for a vote). City Manager Paul D. Cook was instrumental in convincing the board that "recreation" should appear on the ballot. When information was requested regarding the number assigned the levy on the ballot, "Number 16" was mistakenly given by the election board. Luckily it was discovered that the levy was actually "Number 9" and at the last minute changes were made on the brochures and doorknob hangers. Confusion on these two items could have defeated the recreation levy (two of the five issues failed), but "Recreation Rick" triumphed. ■

February Festivities

A Washington's Birthday Problem

Use this quiz at your party or on your bulletin board, for Washington's Birthday, and offer a prize for the first person to turn in the correct answer—or get your local newspaper to run it in a box, the answers to be sent to your department. Teachers, service club directors, and librarians—you can use it, too!

Have history books or encyclopedia available. Work in couples. Announce "this is an arithmetic problem about George Washington. If you do not know the facts required, look in a history book or an encyclopedia."

1. Take the year in which Washington was born.
2. Divide it by the number of the month in which he was born.
3. From that quotient subtract the day of the month on which he was born.
4. To that remainder add the number of rules of behavior that he wrote out.
5. From that sum subtract the number of years between his father's death and his journey to Fort Le Boeuf.
6. To that remainder add the height, in inches, which he attained as a man.
7. Divide that total by the number of horses shot under him in the defeat of General Braddock.
8. Multiply that answer by the number of bullets that passed through his coat in that battle.
9. From that subtract his age at his marriage.

10. Divide by the number of the month in which he took command of the Continental Army.

11. Multiply by the day of the month on which he took command.

12. To that result add the year in which he took command.

13. From that sum subtract the year in which the last battle of the Revolution was fought at Yorktown, Virginia.

14. Divide by the day of the month on which Cornwallis surrendered.

15. Add the number of the month in which he surrendered.

16. And the result will be the number of delegates, one of whom was Washington, who in 1787 signed the Constitution of the United States of America.

For the prize, give two books or packets of Washington stamps to the couple completing the problem first with all the correct answers.—Prepared by JANET E. MORRIS, Veterans Administration Hospital, San Francisco, for the "Bazaar of Seasonal Themes for the Ill and Handicapped," at the 1957 National Recreation Congress.

Answers

1. 1732	5. 10	9. 27 years	13. 1781
2. 2 (Feb.)	6. 74	10. 7 (July)	14. 19
3. 22	7. 2	11. 3	15. 10 (Oct.)
4. 110	8. 4	12. 1775	16. 55

1732 divided by 2 equals 866; minus 22 equals 844; plus 110 equals 954; minus 10 equals 944; plus 74 equals 1018; divided by 2 equals 509; multiplied by 4 equals 2036; minus 27 equals 2009; divided by 7 equals 287; multiplied by 3 equals 861; plus 1775 equals 2636; minus 1781 equals 855; divided by 19 equals 45; plus 10 equals 55.

A Fasching Frolic

Easter this year is on April 6. This means that Shrove Tuesday, or Mardi Gras, will fall on February 18. Whether it's a community-wide carnival or a special but smaller party, the holiday provides a theme that is always gay.

Ask any member of the armed services who has been stationed in Germany and watch his eyes light up when you mention "Fasching" or "Fastnacht." Call it Fasching, or Mardi Gras, the carnival season in Europe and the Americas culminates in a big celebration on Shrove Tuesday, just before the Lenten season starts. Borrow freely from the various customs—let King Karnival reign. Here are a few pegs on which you can hang your program. Many of them came from Service Clubs abroad. The complete party plans,* which are greatly condensed here, originally appeared in *Recreation Program Aids*.

BASIC PLANS

Everyone is in costume. If anyone shows up without costume, have crepe paper, makeup, paper noses, hats, and so on ready, so that he can be quickly transformed.

Everyone wears a mask. The mask may be beautiful or

grotesque, but it must be worn until midnight. Provide a supply of black eye-masks for those who don't have them.

Men cannot ask ladies to dance. Every man must dance with any girl who asks him.

A master of ceremonies is in charge. He chooses individuals or couples at random, and they must do what he tells them. The dance is interrupted frequently by these impromptu and rapid stunts performed by the "victims" for the amusement of others. Keep them quick and simple.

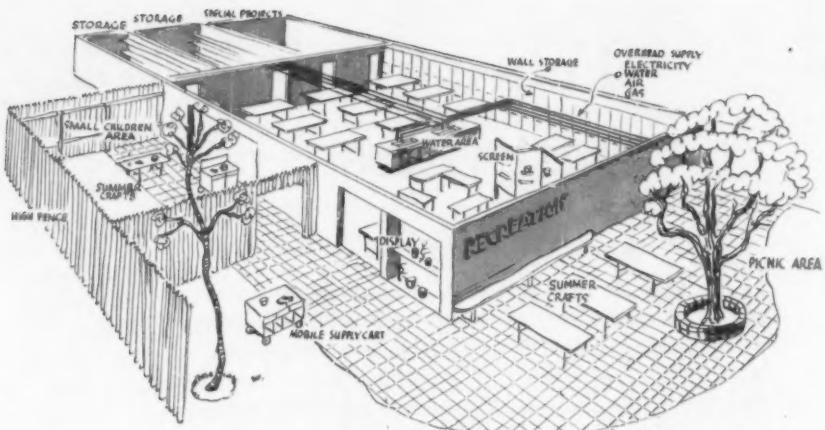
- Spinning on one foot as long as possible.
- Finding three blue-eyed people quickly and bringing them to the master of ceremonies—each to do a trick.
- Breaking a balloon by stamping on it.
- Walking a chalk line while looking through the wrong end of binoculars or opera glasses.
- Reciting a nursery rhyme backward.
- Opening a pack of cigarettes or candy bar using only one hand or wearing canvas gloves. ■

* The Program Department of NRA has a limited number of copies of this party. If you would like to have them, they are ten cents each.

Plan that New Art and Craft Room

Arne W. Randall

Suggestions for its lay-out and equipment.



The central space is for art tables and seats and should have large, heavy woodworking benches that can double as drawing tables and that have storage space underneath. Craft areas should be flexible, with stack stools, folding tables and tables with folding legs, compartments for tools and equipment placed under the work counter or in wall storage spaces. The water or "damp area," should be accessible from all parts of the room. Compartments below the sink are for storage, with a zinc-lined bin for clay and plaster. Dispensers for soap, towels and containers for waste disposal should be provided.

IF ONE WERE forced to be specific about the details essential to a satisfactory art and craft program for recreation purposes, and to specify the building and facilities necessary to keep it in operation, the recommendations would vary with the people and area. Yet, there are a few pertinent points upon which we can agree.

An art-recreation room should provide an environment that will stimulate true creative experience. In planning it, advantage should be taken of every good new development in materials and furnishings. Its design should provide ample floor space, a flexible arrangement of furniture, and adequate storage cabinets to meet either the craft or graphic interests, or both. One large room may be subdivided by a collapsible partition so that a variety of activities may be carried on simultaneously; and a surrounding outdoor area can be conveniently used in good weather.

The fact must be accepted that an art-craft program is just as strong as its leader. The inevitable changes of leadership must call for flexibility of equipment and facilities, the realistic keynote of an art-craft room. A good program depends upon:

1. *Utilizing the strong interests of the leaders.* If one is predominantly a painter, painting will be the basic activity; if one is mechanically inclined, stress will, perhaps, be on the use of power equipment. A community should avail itself of the services of specialists, be they weavers, ceramists, or other types of artists. Storing materials during leadership changes should be anticipated.

2. *Regional interests that may be climatic as well as regional.* In the Southwest, for instance, leather work is an important activity because of the cowboy influence. In the North where winter sports are popular, craft work is often related to skiing, skating, or to indoor sports.

MR. RANDALL is head of the Applied Arts Department, Texas Technological College, Lubbock, Texas.

3. *Availability of certain materials.* In the Pacific Northwest, woodcarving may be popular because of the large quantities of wood products; palm fronds may be in demand for craft uses in tropical climates.

4. *Facilities.* A community planning a new building should consult architects and manufacturers of professional equipment because the cost, quantity, quality, and type of materials to be used will vary with groups. If an older building is being remodeled, many available makeshift materials can be used in the interim. Community leadership and endowment dictate the programs and their extent.

It is recommended that the size of the art rooms be determined by the approximate number of people who might use the space. Accepted dimensions are: *large plants*—30' x 60', inside dimensions; *medium plants*—24' x 50', inside dimensions; *small plants*—24' x 37½', inside dimensions. Rooms should be at least eleven feet high.

The very best facilities available for heating, lighting, ventilating, and sanitation should be used. Art activity rooms and laboratories should maintain an approximate temperature of 65° to 68° F., with a recommended relative humidity of 45 per cent.

Lighting experts and engineers should be consulted to provide a uniform distribution of artificial and natural shadow-free and glare-free illumination for work on either dark days or evenings. Numerous outlets will provide for adjustable modern spotlighting and strategic additional lighting when necessary. Overhead power outlets provide for safety and flexibility.

Kilns and other appliances need properly located outlets and wiring approved by local building codes. Power outlets for both 110-volt and 220-volt service, installed flush with the floor or from the ceiling on a center line of the room, permit use of equipment in a central area and eliminate dangerous cord extensions. Permanently installed electric power equipment, especially kilns, should

be on separate lines controlled by individual switches that can be locked or on a central pilot-light switch panel equipped with a door that can be locked.

Gas outlets and fireproof counter surfacing for metal-work are needed every thirty inches along the crafts bench; and there should be an outlet for a compressed-air torch to be used in an enclosed area for larger soldering and annealing work. A master valve that can be locked should control these, but a separate connection and valve lock should be provided if a gas-fired kiln is used.

If at all possible there should be an acid-resistant all-purpose double sink, at least fifteen inches deep, with drain boards at both ends. It is helpful if this can extend into the room so as to allow access from three sides and be within easy reach of all working areas. Four or more pivoting faucets with hot and cold water and approved clay and grease traps prevent injurious material from clogging drainpipes. Wherever possible, separate water outlets will help a clay-work area.

Flooring should be serviceable and durable. Some activities may take place on the floor. A light-colored rubber or asphalt tile is attractive, with light-reflecting qualities, and is easily maintained. Here again, it is advisable to consult with the dealer because some chemicals can damage a floor.

number of ways. Used materials, though, are not a substitute for good new materials.

Storage Space

There is never enough storage space; every inch should be utilized. There should be shelves, at least seven feet high, on three sides of the room for storing expendable art materials; and compartments for standard-size art stock should be built below the counter. Sufficient storage space for art-craft work in progress should be provided.

Placement of materials:

1. Paints, acids, cleaners should be stored in a closed metal cabinet. Paints should be kept closed; solvents and thinners should be stored in safety cans; acids and other toxic materials should be so labeled.
2. Oil rags and wastes should be disposed of immediately. Use only waste cans with hinged covers.
3. Fire equipment should be near the door and easy to reach.
4. Heavy materials should be stored low.
5. Everything should be stored within reaching height.
6. Floor storage and cluttered floors should be avoided.
7. Storage trays should be used for convenience.
8. Expendable materials should be stored in convenient and appropriate places, and protected from deterioration.



To attract a good variety of participants, programs should allow for unexpected as well as planned activity.



The initial experiences must provide everyone with something to do and a sense of belonging, being wanted.



Familiar tools, like old friends, can start a newcomer on an unfamiliar activity with some self-confidence.

Sound-insulating wall treatment will reduce noises; wall and ceiling acoustical surfacing is a good investment.

Sectional and movable furniture adds flexibility for various arrangements, thereby allowing people to work individually or in groups. The following list of furniture is sufficient for equipping one average art room:

- 35 individual worktables for art or crafts
- 35 highback individual chairs
- 6 stools with round wooden tops, 4 legs, approximately 18½" in height
- 1 worktable, with 28"x42" top, for serving the kiln
- 1 worktable, with 24"x48" top
- 2 worktables, with 28"x72" top
- 1 shopwork bench, containing drawers on each side
- 1 kiln, with firing chamber

It is important to have adequate art supplies, such as paper, paint, brushes, chalk, wood, clay, and so on. However, the finest quality materials are ineffective unless the supervisor has a thorough knowledge of their characteristics and techniques of use. Inexpensive and waste materials are always available and may be used in a never-ending

Safety

To realize the objectives of the art program, adequate working tools are necessary. To avert accidents the proper use of the sharp tools must be demonstrated.

The supervisor should: Keep tools sharp and in good condition; install proper guards and safety devices; see that all equipment is painted with the safety colors recommended by the American Standards Association; post instructions for proper use of tools in clearly visible spots; check underwriter's warranty on power equipment.

The user should: Study instructions on use of tools as posted on bulletin board; use tools correctly. Most accidents occur with use of improper tools or with incorrect use of the right tool. He should cut away from himself in using cutting tools; always work on benches of the proper height; work only with safety guards in proper position; be careful not to crowd around another person using power equipment, acids, hot plates, or other dangerous equipment. ■

Our Space Standards



Central Park, New York. Many of today's parks are the result of farsighted planning by our forefathers.

Park and recreation area standards are due for an overhauling.

George D. Butler

RECREATION is a basic human need. Because this is true, the provision of parks and other recreation areas has been recognized in law, in practice, and in public opinion as an essential function of government. The concept of space standards implies a considerable degree of agreement as to the recreation needs and interests of people and the space and facilities required to serve them. The dictionary definition of a standard most applicable to this topic is "that which is set up and established by authority, custom, or general consent as a model or example; i.e., criterion." Therefore, until proposals have been well established, tested by experience, and accepted, they do not merit the name of standards.

The dictionary concept of a standard is hardly applicable to parks and recreation areas because people's interests, desires, and demands for recreation change, with the result that space and facility requirements need to be modified accordingly. This limitation should be kept in mind in discussing so-called park and recreation area standards. They must be temporary, flexible, and subject to change.

Planning Today for the Parks of Tomorrow

This is probably best illustrated by the evolution of playground space standards. Perhaps the first suggestion for a children's playground standard was contained in a plan for the District of Columbia and announced when the National Recreation Association was organized in 1906. It called for thirty square feet of play space per child, or one acre to care for 1,400 children. Over the years the function of the playground has been gradually expanded, requiring a revision of its essential facilities and space requirements. Today we no longer talk about the children's playground, but the neighborhood playground to serve all ages; its space is now measured in acres, not in square feet per child, and

Mr. BUTLER is director of research, National Recreation Association. A new edition of his familiar book, *Recreation Areas—Their Design and Equipment* (Ronald Press), will be available shortly.

it is increasingly considered as one unit in a combined neighborhood park-school-playground.

Few will disagree with the statement that the reason for providing park and recreation space is to meet the needs of people. Therefore I submit that any standard for such space must definitely be related to population. Yet space proposals are repeatedly made that ignore this basic factor.

Standards cannot be established until the following factors have been determined or at least closely estimated:

1. The basic recreation needs of people.
2. Activities serving the needs of all age groups.
3. The degree to which people will respond to recreation opportunities, if offered.
4. The optimum effective service radius of areas and facilities.
5. Space required to accommodate the number of people participating in various activities.

The variables involved further emphasize the need for frequent revision of standards, and the difficulty in securing universal acceptance of them. Perhaps no aspect of park and recreation service has given rise to as much misunderstanding, misinformation, and confusion as have space standards and their application. People who write about standards or attempt to apply them often fail to distinguish between different types of areas, their functions, and space requirements and their relation to population units. Because of a failure to interpret or apply them correctly, communities are often misguided in their efforts to develop an adequate system of parks and recreation areas. Let me cite one or two examples.

Judging Adequacy of Space

The standard calling for an acre of recreation space for each one hundred of a city's population has been widely adopted because it is easy to remember, easy to apply, and has proved generally satisfactory. Until someone comes along with a better one, it seems to have validity for general application. However, it is merely one index of adequacy,

not a complete one. A city with only half the acreage called for by the standard, but with that well distributed among areas of different types, sizes and development, is probably better off than a city with the standard amount in a single property or in areas unsuitable for park use.

Standards representing only minimum requirements tend to become accepted as the desirable norm and it is therefore difficult to acquire more. When a dual set of standards—minimum and desirable—is adopted, this is likely to happen. Standards should state the amount of space considered adequate and desirable. A city meeting them is quite certain to have satisfactory areas. Even so, in time the standards tend to become inadequate to meet changing conditions and needs, unless revised.

A common misunderstanding is the failure to differentiate between the amount of space set by a standard and the amount feasibly attainable in a given city. The standard of one acre per one hundred, for example, has been criticized as being unrealistic for the large city. However, if based on people's needs, it is equally valid for the metropolis. In fact, there is need for more public recreation space in the densely populated city than in the average community. Admittedly, some large cities cannot hope to attain or even approach the over-all standard, but this means that the city is unable to meet it, not that the standard is at fault. For, as John Howard, past president of the American Institute of Planners, has said: "The fact that land costs twice as much per square foot in one city (or neighborhood) as in another is not a valid excuse for chiseling a 'standard.'"

Where a standard cannot be met, the fact should be faced and admitted rather than camouflaged by substituting an inadequate so-called standard. Yet one hears repeatedly that a lower "standard" should be applied to the large city.

Considering Types of Areas

Space standards have long been established and widely adopted for the neighborhood playground and the playfield—the types required to serve all residential sections and providing a variety of active human uses. Yet these standards have been completely ignored in park and recreation area plans prepared for several cities. For example, in a recent report on an eastern city, the planning consultant did not mention the term "neighborhood playground" but recommended "children's playgrounds" with a minimum total size of .23 acres each. He proposed a minimum of one acre as a standard for a "junior playfield," although it was admitted that the standard set up by most cities is two acres. The elementary school was indicated as the best location for the playfield. The standards proposed in the report bore no relationship whatsoever to the widely accepted concepts of the playground and the playfield, and the people were given no indication that adoption of the proposals would still leave the city with woefully inadequate areas. Such misuse of the term is simply indefensible.

Types of properties with such characteristic features as varied topography, open lawn, woodland, and stream valley do not lend themselves to a specific space formula. Of the many areas for which standards have been proposed, I would like to refer briefly to two types—those serving a resi-

dential neighborhood and others applicable to extraurban properties.

The neighborhood playground and the neighborhood park, as you know, comprise the first group. The playground is a place where the people of the neighborhood, especially school-age children, can engage in a wide variety of play activities in an attractive setting. The neighborhood park, on the other hand, is essentially a place for rest and relaxation, and the landscape features are of primary importance. For many years, partly because of a belief that the two functions were not compatible in a single area, separate standards were used for the neighborhood park and the neighborhood playground.

Standards in Use

On the basis of a careful analysis of the space required to serve basic neighborhood recreation needs, the National Recreation Association in 1943 prepared and widely circulated space standards for the neighborhood playground, which were believed applicable to every residential neighborhood. They called for a playground within a quarter- to a half-mile of every home, depending upon neighborhood conditions, varying in size from three and one-quarter acres for a neighborhood of two thousand to six acres for five thousand people. You will note that more space per population unit was recommended for the smaller neighborhood. A city's total playground needs, however, were believed to be one acre for each eight hundred of its present or estimated future population. Location of the playground at or adjoining the elementary school site was generally recommended. These standards were widely adopted and have exerted a marked influence upon playground planning throughout the nation. They have long merited a complete reappraisal, even though many cities still fall far short.

The neighborhood park, because of its nature, does not lend itself to such precise space standards. Consequently proposed standards vary considerably from one city to another. Doubtless the most valid proposal was made by a committee of the American Public Health Association, which recognized the relationship between the need for neighborhood park space and population density. It therefore recommended two acres of neighborhood park per one thousand persons in a neighborhood with a multiple-family development as contrasted with seven-tenths of an acre per one thousand persons in one with one- or two-family dwellings. The question may well be raised whether there is need for a neighborhood park in the increasing number of developments with from one to four families per acre.

Proposals

Significant proposals for neighborhood space standards have been made in recent years, several of which involve the park-school-playground idea. For example, the facilities conference sponsored in 1956 by The Athletic Institute recommended that the "neighborhood park-recreation center," combining the features of the neighborhood park and playground, should comprise fifteen acres or more. The same acreage was proposed for the "neighborhood park-school," serving the same functions, but including an ele-

mentary school. The service radius recommended for both was one-quarter to one-half mile, or the same as the NRA proposal.

The California Committee on Planning for Recreation Park Areas and Facilities, following a comprehensive study, also recommended in 1956 that a recreation center be provided for each neighborhood, in the form of a "recreation park," or a park in combination with an elementary school. Space and service area standards were proposed for neighborhoods of different types, densities, and sizes. From sixteen- to twenty-acre sites were recommended to serve neighborhoods of two thousand to forty-five hundred people, the effective service radius varying from one-eighth to three-eighths of a mile.

These recent proposals represent significant modifications in earlier concepts of the neighborhood park and playground. They recognize, for example, the feasibility of combining park, playground, and school functions on a single site; the necessity of cooperative planning by school and municipal authorities in the acquisition and development of areas to serve the recreation use of both; the need for acquiring properties larger than those called for by previous standards; and—in the California report—the desirability of reducing the effective service radius of the neighborhood areas. They have a relationship to the space standards proposed for the elementary school by the National Council on Schoolhouse Construction; namely, "a minimum site of five acres plus an additional acre for each one hundred pupils of ultimate enrollment." These proposals merit careful consideration, but additional experience in their local application is required before they merit nation-wide adoption. These newer concepts call for greatly expanded space—in many cities more than double the amount now required.

Let us turn our attention for a moment from the neighborhood to the open country. The desire of large numbers of people to get away from the city for day outings or weekends has created a rising demand for large outlying parks and reservations, and a resulting need for space standards to serve as a guide in the development of acquisition plans. Several agencies have long proposed that one acre in outlying parks and recreation areas be set aside for each one hundred of population of a city and its surrounding metropolitan area, in addition to the municipal parks within the city limits. These outlying areas, usually provided by county, regional, state, or federal authorities, should be within an hour's ride from any part of the region. They make possible such activities as camping, fishing, boating, picnicking, hiking, and nature study.

Several recent proposals reflect the growing demand for additional extraurban parks. One of these, made at the 1956 meeting of the American Institute of Planners, called for ten acres per thousand in metropolitan parks, playgrounds, and beaches plus twenty acres per thousand in small game-hunting and fishing areas within seventy miles of urban centers, or a total of thirty acres per thousand people. A second proposal by a regional planning commission would provide ten acres in county and regional parks and ten additional acres in state-owned areas per thousand people in

a metropolitan region, or twenty extraurban acres per thousand. Tentative standards recently developed by a federal agency call for a still greater acreage.

Looking Ahead

What about the future? Here are four factors, bound to influence park and recreation space standards in the years ahead:

1. Rapidly changing urban conditions—the shorter work week, more leisure, higher incomes, automation, the disappearance of open spaces, increased highway traffic—to mention a few—make necessary the acquisition of more municipal park and recreation acreage for the benefit of the people; hence higher space standards for neighborhood, community, and citywide areas. More opportunities for recreation must be provided within easy reach, especially in the older sections of our cities.

2. Increasing competition for available urban space, rising costs of land acquisition and development, and the growing duplication of space and facility requirements for parks and for school sites make inevitable greater emphasis upon cooperative action in the acquisition, development, operation, and use of neighborhood and community recreation areas. Such cooperative action justifies higher area standards and assures more diversified development; lack of it will make virtually impossible the acquisition of adequate areas.

3. Fringe areas around our metropolitan cities must receive greater consideration. Most present-day park and recreation standards relate to municipalities only, and relatively little consideration has been given to the requirements of outlying, unincorporated communities. Yet the greatest population growth is taking place in them. The need for creating greenbelts around our major urban centers is becoming increasingly apparent. A study designed to develop such standards for the rapidly expanding percentage of the country's population living in fringe areas is urgently needed.

4. Improved major highways, longer weekends, and mounting public interest in outing activities are bound to result in a greater demand for more large parks at a distance from the city, whether provided by the city, county, regional, state, or federal authorities. The development of more adequate standards for regional park and recreation areas is essential to sound planning and cooperative action, which will provide the areas and facilities needed for day outings and weekend use.

Many of our park systems today are the result of farsighted planning and action on the part of our forefathers. Today, when the need for parks and recreation facilities is far greater, we should have the wisdom and courage to follow their example, and thus assure, for our children, a rich heritage for their leisure time. Careful planning and decisive action on the part of all interested individuals and groups are necessary to help develop more satisfactory standards of park and recreation space, and to apply them in your localities where they will contribute to better living in the America of tomorrow. ■

The Need for a Recreation Minor

Henry O. Dresser

PROFESSIONAL preparation in the field of recreation is relatively new. Many recreation leaders still lack adequate professional preparation.

In 1952, the Southern Regional Education Board and the National Recreation Association conducted a study of recreation in the South as a step in meeting the need for skilled recreation leadership. A report of this study was published by the National Recreation Association in 1955.* Following this, a conference was held in Atlanta, Georgia, February 1955, to hear a report of the study and to make recommendations in light of the findings.

The study showed a phenomenal growth of recreation in the South, with a wholly inadequate number of students training for recreation leadership in the region. Through comparison with national figures, three glaring facts were presented:

1. There is a lack of trained people sufficient to maintain, much less to expand, the recreation profession.

2. There is a lack of students entering training for the profession.

3. The schools, with few exceptions, lack enough students to justify adequate faculty.

The Atlanta conference endorsed two basic recommendations:

1. The recruitment of students for professional training.

2. The strengthening and expanding of recreation curricula.

The problem of insufficient trained personnel in recreation in the southern region is also a national problem. We do not have enough students majoring in recreation in our colleges and universities. How can we secure more stu-

dents for the profession, and what improvements can be made in the professional training of recreation personnel? These problems have been discussed many times, in numerous other conferences on professional preparation of recreation personnel.

Would a Recreation Minor Help?

To meet this increasing problem, let us give serious thought to the benefits that could result to the profession from establishing a recreation minor. We all know that a minor should not be a substitute for a recreation major. We also know that some recreation program areas are highly specialized; for example, recreation music, dramatics, art and crafts.

Where is the profession obtaining its specialists in these areas? Is it not a fact that the profession, by and large, draws its recreation music directors from among the music majors who have no training in recreation? Let us consider this point seriously. How many students majoring in recreation are specialists in the field of music? Will the recreation major curriculum produce any? Will a student who possesses the skills necessary for specialization in music major in recreation?

Would it not be to the advantage of the profession of recreation, as well as to the field of music, to provide a minor in recreation for students majoring in music? Even if this is outside of the traditional pattern of the schools of music in our colleges and universities, it could be done. Music majors with a minor in recreation would find themselves trained in a whole new area with employment available before the ink was dry on their diplomas. This might be the answer for music majors who will not find their place in the concert field, or who do not want to be the traditional private music teacher. The administrators of our larger recreation departments would not find it necessary to train such graduates as directors of their music programs—a task requiring much time and effort.

A much simpler problem presents itself in the field of dramatics. Students majoring in speech in the College of Education at Louisiana State University are required to have a teaching minor. Many do not desire to teach and are, therefore, selecting a minor in which they have little interest; and yet they must choose one. Why not permit them to minor in recreation, thus giving them further choice? Let us consider the leaders of our dramatics programs. Have they had any professional training in recreation? I believe the number is small.

The same situation exists in fine arts, and so on. The fine arts major may not be an arts and crafts specialist, but he could be one with a minor in recreation. Would not such a minor in recreation, added to the field of fine arts, provide us with many more students qualified to handle this program area? There also will be students majoring in recreation who will seek specialization in the arts and crafts field. Thus, both groups of students would be qualified. The major would offer no more qualification than the minor for directing a program in a special area. The training and educational experiences of a student are the factors which qualify him and, in both cases, these would be comparable.

There is another very important factor in this type of professional training, and that is the additional opportunity for employment. Those students with a major in a specialized area would find the recreation minor advantageous. If the music or speech major were teaching in the school system, he or she could find part-time employment in recreation. The summer recreation program could be very beneficial to teachers from a monetary standpoint and, at the same time, render valuable service to the community.

There appear to be many factors to justify a recreation minor, the most important being that more well-qualified personnel would be available to the recreation profession. ■

* *Recreation as a Profession in the Southern Region*. Available from the National Recreation Association, 8 West Eighth Street, New York 11. \$3.75.

MR. DRESSER is chairman of the recreation curriculum, Department of Health and Physical Education, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge.

Code of Principles for 1958

Verne Powell

Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.—Galatians. II, 9

As superintendent of recreation, promise yourself:

To realize that honor and integrity are virtues that are essential for any successful and worth-while life or activity—public or private.

To understand that an investment in appreciation can bring a profit of good will and sincere endeavor.

To appreciate the fact that more can be accomplished by seeking community cooperation than by the attitude of “put on the pressure.”

To think only of the best, to work only for the best, and to expect only the best.”

To be strong enough to follow through on your commitments; earnest enough to try to make wise decisions and to have the courage to back up subordinates assigned to carry out your instructions.

To be too noble to engage in petty criticisms and too strong to be influenced or bothered by the same. “Give so much time to the improvement of yourself that you have no time to criticize others.”

To expect loyalty, honesty, and integrity from your board; from other members of the recreation department—full-time, part-time, or volunteer workers—and to realize fully that they expect the same from you.

To remember that you are conducting a public recreation program and that your efforts should be bent to provide a maximum amount of wholesome recreation for a maximum number of people.

To remember that in your contacts with the many people—both a necessity and a privilege in your work—that to have a friend, you must be a friend.

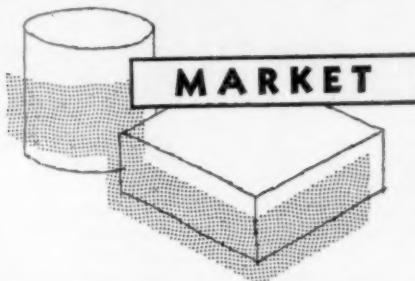
To forget the mistakes of the past and press on to the greater achievements of the future.

To remember that the existence of man belongs to the consideration of God:

“Do unto others as you would have others do unto you.”

“Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.” ■

This code was drawn up by MR. POWELL and presented to the recreation board prior to his acceptance as superintendent of recreation in Hutchinson, Kansas. Reprinted from Kansas Recreation Association Newsletter, June, 1956.



NEWS

If you are interested in any of these products, write directly to the manufacturer at the address given. PLEASE mention that you read about it on RECREATION magazine's Market News page.

♦ A new volleyball net, made of linen seine twine, is said to be stretch-free and more durable than other nets, as linen is considered one of the strongest fibers known to man. The net is manufactured in the standard thirty-two foot size and is made in two styles—one with steel cable and the other with rope cable. It is of knot-free construction, with regularly shaped and sized mesh, and is supported in tension by means of tie strings along the length of the supporting posts. The new product is part of the Gold Medal and Invincible Lines of sport nets of The Linen Thread Company, Inc., 418 Grand Avenue, Paterson 12, New Jersey.



Childers Carport, could be used for a picnic-table area covering. The covers can be quickly assembled and erected by regular workmen, without specialized skills. For further information and suggestions, write to Childers Manufacturing Company, 3620 West 11th Street, P. O. Box 7467, Houston 8, Texas.

♦ The surge of interest in badminton over the past few years has resulted in the production of a sixteen-page booklet, available in quantity lots, called *Guide to Better Badminton*. This includes information for beginners: tips on clothing, selection of equipment, grip, fundamentals of court strategy, scoring, and basic rules. There is a full-page diagram showing the officially approved layout and dimensions for a badminton court. The *Guide* concludes with suggestions for organizing a badminton program within various organizations and also lists further source material. The booklets are free. Write, on your official letterhead, to Ashaway Products, Inc., Ashaway, Rhode Island.

♦ The new Checkerette Jr. coat rack answers the "children's wraps problem" for community centers, churches, schools, kindergartens, or at home, because it is low enough to enable tots to hang up wraps without adult assistance. It can be furnished with either twenty-four captive or removable hangers or with sixteen two-sided saddle hooks for

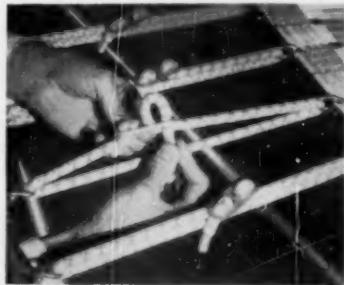
thirty-two coats, and also in double-width units having two hanger bars for double capacity. Vogel-Peterson Company, 1127 West 37th Street, Chicago 9.

♦ Adjustagoal is a new portable basketball goal now on the market. This sturdy equipment may be used with or without backboard, for a variety of games, and is light enough to be moved around by women leaders, yet cannot be upset by thrown balls. Metal stakes are supplied if semi-permanent installation of this all-steel unit is desired. Ring height is adjustable to 6' 8", 8' 4", and 10', to fit the ages of a variety of participants. Sta-Rite Manufacturing Company, Bucyrus, Ohio.



♦ An adjustable high-level platform on wheels brings overhead fixtures and wall objects within easy reach for safe maintenance and decoration, a real help in auditoriums, gyms, galleries and similar areas. The aluminum structure rolls down narrow aisles and through doorways and is assembled in less than two minutes—no wing nuts, bolts, or loose parts. Unique jack-knife design permits elevating platform to any height six feet to twelve feet above the floor. Up-Right Scaffolds, 1013 Pardee Street, Berkeley 10, California.

♦ The Nissen Adjustable Shock Cord was developed for use on all sizes of trampolines. As this device is adjustable, the individual can adjust the bed to specific requirements. An old bed or frame can be updated by additional tension, where wear and tear have resulted in poor springing qualities. The adjustable shock cord may be attached directly to the metal grommets on the bed, permitting removal of the bed from the frame, for shipping, while the cords remain attached to the bed. The new cord has all the advantages of the nonadjustable trampoline cord, together with features described above. A broken cable, in otherwise good condition, can also be repaired with this device. Nissen Trampoline Company, Cedar Rapids, Iowa. ■



Books & Pamphlets Received

A UN PEACE FORCE? (#257), William R. Frye. Public Affairs Committee, 22 East 38th Street, New York City. Pp. 27. \$25.

A DICTIONARY OF BALLET, G. B. L. Wilson. Penguin Books, 3300 Clipper Mill Road, Baltimore 11, Maryland. Pp. 283. Paper \$.95.

AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL, Betty Lou Points. Greenwich Book Publishers, 489 Fifth Avenue, New York 17. Pp. 90. \$3.00.

AN EXAMINATION OF THE CONCEPT OF MEDICAL INDIGENCE (Research Series 2), Odin W. Anderson and Harold Alksne. Health Information Foundation, New York City. Pp. 14. Free.

APPLIED IMAGINATION (Revised). Charles Scribner's Sons, 597 Fifth Avenue, New York 17. Pp. 379. \$3.75.

AQUATICS GUIDE (July 1957—July 1959). Alice Shoman, Editor. American Association for Health, Physical Education, and Recreation, 1201 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington 6. Pp. 144. Paper \$.75.

BACK TALK. Birk & Company, 22 East 60th Street, New York 22. Unpaged. \$.15.

THE BIRD WATCHERS, Marjory Bartlett Sanger. E. P. Dutton, 300 Fourth Avenue, New York 10. Pp. 164. \$2.75.

BOYS' AND GIRLS' SERIES: THE WINTER BOOK FOR BOYS; THE WINTER BOOK FOR GIRLS, Heather Dean, Editor; **GIRLS' BOOK OF POPULAR Hobbies**, Ursula Bloom, Editor; **THE BOYS' BOOK OF POPULAR Hobbies**, Jack Cox, Editor, \$2.75 each. **THE GIRLS' BOOK OF OUTDOOR LIFE; THE BOYS' BOOK OF OUTDOOR LIFE**, \$3.00 each. All Pp. 144. Roy Publishers, 30 East 74th Street, New York 21.

BRIDGE BIDDING (Goren), John Mallon. Abbeard-Schuman, 404 Fourth Avenue, New York 16. Pp. 192. \$3.50.

BRUCE BENEDICT, HALFBACK, William Campbell Gault. E. P. Dutton, 300 Fourth Avenue, New York 10. Pp. 192. \$2.75.

CALIFORNIA RECREATION PARK DIRECTORY, (1957-58). Documents Section, State Printing Office, Sacramento 14. Pp. 26. \$.50 (plus two cents for California addresses).

CAMPING GUIDE FOR THE PLACEMENT OF HANDICAPPED CHILDREN IN REGULAR CAMPS. Community Council of New York, 44 East 23rd Street, New York 10. Pp. 39. Paper \$1.00.

CHORAL READINGS FOR JUNIOR WORSHIP AND INSPIRATION, Harry J. Heitman and Helen A. Brown. Westminster Press, Witherspoon Building, Philadelphia 7. Pp. 64. One to four copies \$1.00 each; five or more, \$.90 each.

CLAY AND GLAZES FOR THE POTTER, Daniel Rhodes. Greenberg: Publisher, 201 East 57th Street, New York 22. Pp. 219. \$7.50.

CONWAY'S ENCYCLOPEDIA OF FLOWER ARRANGEMENT, John Gregory Conway. Alfred A. Knopf, 501 Madison Avenue, New York 22. Pp. 294. \$6.00.

COURSE IN MAKING MOSAICS, Joseph L. Young. Reinhold Publishing, 430 Park Avenue, New York 22. Pp. 60. \$3.50.

CROQUET (Rules and strategy for home play), Paul Brown. D. Van Nostrand, 120 Alexander Street, Princeton, New Jersey. Pp. 60. \$3.50.

EDITOR'S HANDBOOK. Iowa State College Press, Ames. Pp. 60. Paper \$.75.

EFFECTS OF RADIATION AND FALLOUT (#256), James F. Crow. Public Affairs Committee, 22 East 38th Street, New York 16. Pp. 28. \$2.25.

EXPLORING OUR PREHISTORIC INDIAN RUINS, Devereux Butcher. National Parks Association, 2000 P Street, N.W., Washington 6. Pp. 64. \$1.00 (\$.60 to schools, libraries, and agencies).

EXPLORING THE NATIONAL PARKS OF CANADA, Devereux Butcher. National Parks Association, 2000 P Street, N.W., Washington 6. Pp. 84. \$1.50 (\$.90 to schools, libraries, and agencies).

FIELD HOCKEY, Josephine T. Lees and Betty Shellenberger. Ronald Press, 15 East 26th Street, New York 10. Pp. 119. \$2.95.

FINANCING HEALTH COSTS FOR THE AGED (NY State Conference). Office of the Special Assistant, Problems of the Aging, Room 147, State Capitol, Albany, New York. Pp. 239. \$2.00 (make check or money order payable to the Commissioner of Taxation and Finance).

FOLK ARTS AND CRAFTS, Marguerite Ickis. Association Press, 291 Broadway, New York 7. Pp. 269. \$5.95.

FORD TREASURY OF STATION WAGON LIVING, Franklin M. Reck and William Moss, Editors. Simon and Schuster, Rockefeller Center, New York 20. Pp. 252. \$2.95.

GAMES FOR JUNIOR AND SENIOR HIGH SCHOOLS. Burgess Publishing, 426 South Sixth Street, Minneapolis 15. On 171 cards. \$2.75.

GLOVE PETTREY, Josephine M. Jones. Sports Shelf, 10 Overlook Terrace, New York 33. Pp. 93. \$2.75.

GOLFING TECHNIQUE IN PICTURES, Tom Scott, Editor. Pitman Publishing, 2 West 45th Street, New York 36. Pp. 128. \$6.50.

GROUP SOCIALS FOR EVERY MONTH, Jane Kirk. Abingdon Press, 201 Eighth Avenue, Nashville 2, Tennessee. Pp. 222. \$2.95.

GUIDANCE OF CHILDREN THROUGH PHYSICAL EDUCATION (Second Edition), Dorothy La Salle. Ronald Press, 15 East 26th Street, New York 10. Pp. 375. \$4.00.

HANDICRAFT FOR BOYS AND GIRLS, J. Kay and C. T. White. Sports Shelf, 10 Overlook Terrace, New York 33. Pp. 84. \$2.50.

HERE'S HOW AND WHEN, Armilda B. Keiser. Friendship Press, 257 Fourth Avenue, New York 10. Pp. 174. \$2.75.

HILLSWAY (Travel Guide), Rowland L. Hill. Hillsway Company, P.O. Box 2090, Long Beach, California. Pp. 144. Paper \$2.00.

HOW TO DRAW (Second Edition). Pitman Publishing, 2 West 45th Street, New York 36. Unpaged. \$3.95.

HOW TO EARN MONEY, Bill and Sue Severn. Prentice-Hall, Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey. Pp. 210. \$2.95.

HOW TO HAVE A SHOW, Barbara Berk and Jeanne Bendick. Franklin Watts, 699 Madison Avenue, New York 21. Pp. 63. \$2.95.

HOW TO IDENTIFY PLANTS, H. D. Harrington. Sage Books, 2679 South York Street, Denver 10. Pp. 203. \$3.00.

HOW TO STENCIL A TRAY, Harold W. Watts. Rural Research Institute, 500 Fifth Avenue, New York 36. Pp. 23. Free.

HOW YOU CAN MAKE MONEY AT HOME, E. F. Ames. Mail-Towne, 9 Murray Street, New York 7. Pp. 39. Paper \$1.00 (quantity rates available on request).

HUNTING ANNUAL, Larry Koller. Random House, 457 Madison Avenue, New York 22. Pp. 127. \$2.95.

INSTITUTIONS SERVING DELINQUENT CHILDREN. Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25. Pp. 119. \$.40.

JUDO. Sportshelf, 10 Overlook Terrace, New York 33. Pp. 31. Paper \$.75.

LIVE FOR TOMORROW. Boy Scouts of America, New Brunswick, New Jersey. Pp. 39. \$3.00 (available from local Boy Scout Council offices or local distributors of Boy Scout equipment).

MAN AND AUTOMATION, Leonard Landon Goodman. Penguin Books, 3300 Clipper Mill Road, Baltimore 11, Maryland. Pp. 286. Paper \$.85.

MANUAL OF NUTRITION (Fourth Edition). Philosophical Library, 15 East 40th Street, New York 16. Pp. 68. \$3.50.

MEET MORE PEOPLE—HAVE MORE FUN, Faith Perkins. G. P. Putnam's Sons, 210 Madison Avenue, New York 16. Pp. 192. \$2.95.

MENTAL HEALTH IN COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY, Dana L. Farnsworth, M.D. Harvard University Press, Cambridge 38, Massachusetts. Pp. 244. \$5.00.

MODERN DEFENSIVE FOOTBALL, Gomer Jones and Charles "Bud" Wilkinson. Prentice-Hall, Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey. Pp. 373. \$4.95.

NATURE RECREATION IN WILLIAM PENN'S COUNTRY (Reprint), William G. (Cap'n Bill) Vinal. William G. Vinal, R.F.D. #2, Vinehall, Grove Street, Norwell, Massachusetts. Pp. 363. \$2.25 (postpaid).

Magazine Articles

CALIFORNIA PARENT-TEACHER, December 1957
Our Gift to the Community, *Bemi DeBus*.

JOURNAL OF HEALTH, PHYSICAL EDUCATION, and RECREATION, September 1957
Fitness through Outdoor Education, *Julian W. Smith*.

Fitness through Creative Gymnastics, *Elly Friedmann-Wittkower*.

, October 1957
Qualities of the Professional in Hospital Recreation, *Paul Haun, M.D.*

SPORTS ILLUSTRATED, December 2, 1957
Sports in the USSR, *Jerry Cooke*.

SWIMMING POOL AGE, October 1957
Aquatics for the Handicapped, *Barbara Sterling*.

Building and Operating Costs (A Survey of Outdoor Swimming Pools).
A Review of Recommended Standards for the Competitive Pool.



PUBLICATIONS

Covering the Leisure-time Field

The Complete Book of Children's Play

Ruth E. Hartley and Robert M. Goldenson. Thomas Y. Crowell, 432 Fourth Avenue, New York 16. Pp. 462. \$5.00.

Here is one of the most important books published recently in the recreation field. If I were an instructor in a college or university, and had classes in any phase of recreation, this book would be required reading for my students. If I were a superintendent of recreation, this book would be the basis for pre-service and in-service training. If I were a chairman in the national or local PTA, I would plan programs around this book. If I were a Scout leader, a leader in any group work agency, or a parent, I would read and re-read this book.

Books on activities can be found by the dozen. Books on the choice of activities, the meaning of play, its values in the development of the child, are hard to come by and much needed.

The first half of the book, dealing with the child under eight and his activities, is by Dr. Hartley, psychologist and consultant on children's problems. The second half, dealing with children from eight through adolescence, is by Dr. Goldenson, psychology professor and guidance specialist. His chapter on "Play in the Pre-teens" is excellent and covers a period of childhood often neglected in favor of the pre-school or adolescent age.

The value of this book is increased also by a very comprehensive appendix, with lists of equipment and supplies, records, song books, books, hobby information sources, magazine listings, and organization listings. As a resource guide, this appendix is accurate and comprehensive. — *Virginia Musselman, NRA Program Service.*

Murals for Schools: Sharing Creative Experiences

Arne W. Randall. Davis Press, Worcester, Massachusetts. Pp. 100. \$5.95.

This book, by the head of the Applied Arts Department at Texas Technological College in Lubbock, is written in terms of the classroom. Substitute art and crafts room, however, and it would be equally useful to any public

or private recreation agency.

We can think of no more engrossing or interesting art or craft project than working out together, as a group, a mural for decoration, to relieve a trip or tour, or to share interesting experiences. Such a project would offer an opportunity to experiment with many art media and various techniques, ranging from simple paper cutouts to the use of wire, aluminum, plastics, oils, mosaics, and so on. It is one that can be adopted for any age group—a whole new area of creative activity.

The book is illustrated by many sketches and photographs of youngsters engrossed in working on a common project. Its content is written simply, comprehensively, and in an engaging style. Mr. Randall is the author of the article, "Plan That Art and Craft Room," which appears on page 22 of this issue.

Gardening—A New World For Children*

Sally Wright. Macmillan Company, 60 Fifth Avenue, New York 11. Pp. 183. \$2.75.

This book may be intended for adults with youngsters whom they wish to interest in gardening, but this adult found it as entertaining as a novel. Any one with even a slightly green thumb will be intrigued by Mrs. Wright's vast number of interesting garden projects. Imagine planning a sense-of-time garden, or a nose garden, an odd-behavior garden or a believe-it-or-not garden! And these ideas are backed up by lists of plants or seeds, with sources from which they may be bought.

In addition to gardens, the book suggests excellent side lines to real gardening—like the nostalgic flower dolls, cornhusk dolls, flower necklaces, holiday ideas, use of vegetables and plants in serving a meal, indoor gardens, and dozens of other ideas that would appeal to any type of youngster.

It is far more than a book on gardening. It spills over into natural, simple, and irresistible techniques for developing an interest in, and an appreciation for, nature.

The author's premise, incidently, is

* Available from the NRA Recreation Book Center, 8 West Eighth Street, New York 11.

"emphatically not a garden-for-every-child. Rather, it is *not the same garden for all children*. It offers the idea of gardens compatible with their other interests—gardens that extend horizons and indulge whims and fancies."

If you conduct any activities involving nature, and if you have children or friends with children and garden space, this is a book that will be treasured.

Professional Preparation of Recreation Personnel

American Association for Health, Physical Education, and Recreation, 1201 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington 6. Pp. 48. Paper \$1.00.

This is the report of the November 1956 Washington Conference sponsored by the American Association for Health, Physical Education, and Recreation, the Association for Higher Education, and the National Commission for Teacher Education and Professional Standards. The National Recreation Association was one of eight cooperating organizations. Eighty-two delegates from thirty-eight states attended.

Its purpose was to formulate some recommendations for better programs of professional preparation for those entering the field of recreation. Consideration was given to courses, other than specialized courses in recreation, that should be included in the undergraduate and graduate major courses; and to the specialized recreation courses and experience that should be included in the undergraduate and graduate recreation curriculums. Also included were the specialized recreation major curriculum for such fields as industry, camping, hospitals, and institutions; recommendations for personnel, faculty, and facilities; the undergraduate and graduate curriculums, and preparation for specialized leadership. The report

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adds new and additional material to the literature now available on the professional preparation of recreation personnel. Copies may be secured directly from the AAHPER. — W. C. Sutherland, NRA Personnel Services.

The Clubwoman's Entertainment Book

Lawrence M. Brings. T. S. Denison, 321 Fifth Avenue South, Minneapolis 15, Minnesota. Pp. 482. \$4.50.

This is the sort of book often requested by women's clubs, PTA's, ladies' guilds, and the like. Such groups frequently wish to put on short skits, pantomimes, playlets, and one-act plays, solely for group entertainment, which require no particular skill in acting and the simplest of sets and costumes. They are not looking for art, but for comic situations at which they can laugh with each other.

Within the above limitations, this book will be very helpful. Nothing in it is designed to uplift, instruct, or point a moral. It is all very simple humor (with the exception of one Easter play that must have been included by mistake) but the selections are in good taste. Eight of the one-act plays in Section Five (plays, comedies, and farces) are available in single copies for convenience of individuals in memorizing their parts. Cast for these skits, playlets, and plays range from two to fourteen persons—all women.

PARKS AND CONSERVATION

Among a recent flurry of books on this subject are:

Exploring Our National Parks and Monuments (Revised Fifth Edition), Devereux Butcher. Houghton Mifflin, 2 Park Street, Boston. Pp. 288. \$5.00.

This is a revised and enlarged edition of one of those park books that are filled with beautiful photographs in color and in black and white. It can be a marvelous help in planning a vacation in one of these park areas, for it also tells about road and trail trips. It would make a beautiful gift book.

The Federal Lands: Their Use and Management, Marion Clawson and Burnell Held. John Hopkins Press, Baltimore 18. Pp. 501. \$8.50.

Approximately one-fifth of the total land area of the United States is federally owned. Within the past decade the use of federal lands has become big business; the shift was so great and so sudden that many of the methods of managing the lands are now seriously out of date. In this book the authors examine the most important of these

changes, tell how they came about, what they may mean for the future, and discuss some of the alternatives for dealing with them. They conclude that if the full potential of the federal lands is to be achieved, it is time for a major and critical re-examination of federal land management. Against a background of detailed and authoritative information, they suggest practical ways in which federal land management can be revised to realize the maximum potential.

Conservation: An American Story of Conflict and Accomplishment, David Cushman Coyle. Rutgers University Press, New Brunswick, New Jersey. Pp. 284. \$5.00.

Theodore Roosevelt's Governors' Conference in May of 1908 marked the beginning of the conservation movement in the United States, almost simultaneously with the founding of the National Recreation Association—also under the Roosevelt sponsorship. In the conservation field, Gifford Pinchot worked with Roosevelt. This book is a history of the development of the resources program toward integrated public management all the way to the present. Illustrated.

Interpreting Our Heritage, Freeman Tilden. University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Pp. 110. \$3.50.

The word "interpretation" as used in this book refers to education activities in relation to our parks, museums, and historic places. The book sets forth the basic principles upon which good interpretation may be built and describes the best practices for visitor services.

One chapter deals with "The Mystery of Beauty," another with "The Priceless Ingredient." Well-written, with a foreword by Conrad L. Wirth of the National Park Service.

Nature Recreation (New Edition), William G. Vinal. American Humane Education Society, 180 Longwood Avenue, Boston 15. Pp. 322. \$3.50 (two or more copies \$3.00).

Our old friend of recreation, camping and the out-of-doors, Cap'n Bill, has come out with what amounts to a textbook for leaders to use in teaching nature activities and conservation to groups of the young. If anyone knows the secret of such leadership, it is Cap'n Bill! His book is intended for the uninitiated as well as for students in colleges of education, and it is bristling with practical information, know-how and suggestions. In fact, it is a well-

planned course sure to fire young leaders with enthusiasm and offer new ideas to the more experienced. Recommended.

The Boys' Entertainment Book

Bob Smith. T. S. Denison & Company, 321 Fifth Avenue S., Minneapolis 15. Pp. 367. \$3.95.

This is not the usual rehash of old material. In fact, we were very agreeably surprised at the freshness of the stunts, skits, games, shorties (quickie stunts), and dramatized songs. Some are what we adults might call a bit "corny"—but those who have worked with camping and club groups know that children's humor is usually not very subtle.

The book is full of what, on the whole, are good ideas for campfires, rainy days, stunt nights, and so on, is a rarity, and leaders will find this one a gold mine. We might quarrel over a few of its ideas, but what collection is perfect?

The ghost stories (that old question as to whether they should be used is not the point here) are original, some carrying a touch of humor or a surprise ending. A few have enough "scary" quality to raise a few agreeable goose pimples. Also, two really excellent Indian tales have suggestions for their dramatization, if desired.

The author has included material that can be used by girls' camps or other groups, but, on the whole, it has a definite young male appeal.

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Recreation Leadership Training Courses

Sponsored by the National Recreation Association

and

Local Recreation Agencies

January, February, March, 1958

RUTH G. EHLERS
Social Recreation

Lebanon, Pennsylvania
January 21

Lisle C. Wochner, Chief, Special Service, Lebanon Veterans Hospital

Newark, Delaware
February 3-6

Wayne Bath, Acting 4-H Club Leader, Extension Service, University of Delaware

Lawrence, Massachusetts
February 11-14

Miss Evelyn Stults, Executive Director, YWCA

State of North Carolina
February 24-March 6

Miss Virginia Gregory, North Carolina Recreation Commission, Raleigh

Cicero, Illinois
February 3-6

William C. Kouns, Cicero Youth Commission

ANNE LIVINGSTON
Social Recreation

State of North Carolina
February 10-20

Miss Virginia Gregory, North Carolina Recreation Commission, Raleigh

Ames, Iowa
March 3-6

Miss Helen Tucker, Ag Annex, Iowa State College

Natural Bridge, Virginia
March 20-21

Dr. Harold K. Jack, Supervisor, HPES&R, State Board of Education, Richmond 16

GRACE WALKER

Poughkeepsie, New York
January 13-16

Rupert J. Tarver, Jr., William W. Smith Community Center

Bozeman, Montana
January 20-24

Miss Geraldine G. Fenn, Associate State 4-H Club Leader, Montana State College

Miss Helen M. Dauncey will be conducting social recreation courses at the following Air Force Bases: January 13-16, Keesler Air Force Base, Biloxi, Mississippi, (for further details, communicate with the Air Force Regional Representative, Wayne Shields, USAF Office of Community Services, University of Georgia, Athens); January 20-23, Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas; January 27-30, Sheppard Air Force Base, Wichita Falls, Texas; February 3-6, Amarillo Air Force Base, Amarillo, Texas, (for further details, communicate with the Air Force Regional Representative, Ray Morrison, 248 Casa Blanca, Fort Worth 7, Texas); February 10-13, Lowry Air Force Base, Denver, Colorado; February 24-27, Warren Air Force Base, Cheyenne, Wyoming; March 3-6, Scott Air Force Base, Belleville, Illinois; March 10-13, Chanute Air Force Base, Rantoul, Illinois, (for further details, communicate with the Air Force Regional Representative, Howard Beresford, 3055 Bellaire, Denver, Colorado).

Frank A. Staples will be at the following Air Force Bases conducting two-week arts and crafts courses: January 6-16, Chanute Air Force Base, Rantoul, Illinois; January 20-30, Scott Air Force Base, Belleville, Illinois, (for further details, communicate with Howard Beresford, address above); February 3-13, Amarillo Air Force Base, Amarillo, Texas; February 17-28, Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas; March 3-13, Sheppard Air Force Base, Wichita Falls, Texas (for further details, communicate with Ray Morrison, address above); March 17-27, Keesler Air Force Base, Biloxi, Mississippi, (for further details, communicate with Wayne Shields, address above).

Attendance at training courses conducted by National Recreation Association leaders is usually open to all who wish to attend. For details as to location, contents of the course, registration procedure, and the like, communicate with the sponsor of the course as listed above.

NRA 1958 DISTRICT CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

District	Location	Dates
CALIFORNIA STATE & PACIFIC SOUTHWEST	Civic Auditorium, Fresno, California	February 16-19
MIDDLE ATLANTIC SOUTHWEST	The Inn, Buck Hill Falls, Pennsylvania Shamrock-Hilton Hotel, Houston, Texas	March 19-21 March 19-22
SOUTHEAST	Francis Marion Hotel, Charleston, South Carolina	March 20-22
GREAT LAKES	Schroeder Hotel, Milwaukee, Wisconsin	March 24-26
MIDWEST	Jay Hawk Hotel, Topeka, Kansas (Meetings in Municipal Auditorium)	April 8-11
PACIFIC NORTHWEST	Multnomah Hotel, Portland, Oregon	April 7-9
SOUTHERN	Cumberland Falls State Park, Kentucky	April 14-16
NEW ENGLAND	Norwich Inn, Norwich, Connecticut	May 18-21

BELVA LOCKWOOD *For President!!!*



Political cartoon from "The American Past" by Roger Butterfield, Simon and Schuster, Inc., publishers.

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She was small and slender and very handsome in her new blue gown as she stepped onto the roughhewn platform. Above her, flags snapped against the summer sky. Before her, the lady delegates of the Equal Rights Party stood up and cheered.

Belva Anne Lockwood accepted their cheers, and their nomination, to become in 1884 the woman who ran for Presidency of the United States.

A gallant choice she was, too. Defying massive prejudice, she had fought for and won a college education, a law degree—the first ever given an American woman, and, finally, the right to plead cases before the Supreme Court. (Where, among other triumphs she won a \$5,000,000 settlement for the Cherokee Indians.)

SHE didn't expect to be President; that wasn't her point. She would run to make America conscious of women's right to political equality. And run she did. Ridiculed in the press, hooted on the street, even denounced by fellow-suffragist Susan Anthony, she nevertheless received 4,159 popular ballots from six states.

More important, of course, she dramatized, as no one else had, women's battle for the right to vote.

Before Belva Lockwood died, her fight was won and America had gained the strength of millions of new "first class citizens," her women. That strength today mightily reinforces the living guarantee behind one of the world's soundest investments—United States Savings Bonds. It is one more reason why you know that in America's Savings Bonds your savings are safe and your return is sure. For real security, buy Savings Bonds, through Payroll Savings or at your bank.

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